





BLAIR'S
OUTLINES
OF
CHRONOLOGY,
ANCIENT AND MODERN;
BEING AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF
HISTORY.

FOR THE USE OF SCHOOLS.

HARTFORD,
SAMUEL G. GOODRICH,

.....
1825.

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DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT, ss.

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"Blair's Outlines of Chronology, ancient and mod-
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JUN 27 1945

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This work is introductory to a series of Histories, now
preparing on an improved plan, calculated to render the
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Blair's Outlines of Ancient History.

Blair's Outlines of Modern History.

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These works are entirely original, but are called
Blair's, (being partly on the plan of his celebrated books
for education,) for the purpose of giving a uniform and
connected series, a title designating such connection.

PREFACE.

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THIS work is designed to be introductory to the study of General History. That it is calculated to be useful as such, may perhaps appear from the following considerations

It will be had in recollection, that a child, when introduced to the study of History, has few or no ideas on the subject. His conceptions are, therefore, as in all other similar cases, at first partial, confused, and formed with difficulty. It is but by degrees, and after repeated efforts, that the topics of history are even understood.

But if the ideas of history are conceived with difficulty, the formation of its complicated details, into clear and lucid general views, while it is equally important, is still more difficult; and as history is generally taught, is rarely done.

Another fact should be considered—that as all study is labour, the study of history must be, in itself, disagreeable and onerous to the pupil, unless it presents to him agreeable ideas—pictures addressed to his imagination, characters with whom he may sympathize, or events calculated to touch his feelings.

This point seems not to have been apprehended in the construction of most of the juvenile histories in use. They are usually composed in a style by no means adapted to youthful capacities, and are therefore not understood; they are generally put together without any other arrangement than a chronological succession, thus crowding the mind with a multitude of facts having no other relation to each other than that they occurred about the same time, or in the same place—they are too frequently extended treatises, and quite beyond the scope of youth—or barren compends, presenting nothing but dry dates, and general statements, and therefore exciting no interest in the mind, and leaving no impression on the memory.

This work, it is hoped, is calculated in some measure to remedy these evils. The subject of history is here opened to the mind of the pupil, by presenting a few of the great events with which it is distinguished. Here they are presented in easy terms, and disengaged from any

such connections, as would be likely to confound the mind. These events being fixed in the mind, the pupil, as it were, looking from commanding eminences, is led to take a brief, but distinct survey of the whole field of history. He thus gets a clear and comprehensive view of the subject in outline, and is therefore qualified to enter, without danger of confusion, upon a more extended study of the subject; and if this outline is strongly fixed in his memory, as it is designed to be, he will through life have in recollection the great dates in chronology, and be thus able to fix other dates with sufficient precision for all practical purposes.

REMARKS TO TEACHERS.

It is designed that the *General Divisions* be committed strongly to memory, so that the pupil may never forget them.

It is proposed, in general, only to require the pupil to recite what is in larger type; the teacher will extend the examination farther as he chooses.

It is suggested that the pupil be required to read the book once or twice through, before he is examined by the questions.

CHRONOLOGY.

CHRONOLOGY may be divided into *two* parts, viz. *Ancient* and *Modern*.

Ancient Chronology extends from the Creation of the world to the Nativity of Christ, a period of 4004 years: *Modern* Chronology extends from the Nativity of Christ to the present time.

The word *Chronology* means, at large, the science of computing and adjusting periods of time, and treats of its division into certain portions, as days, months, years, and centuries. But it is here used only in its application to History, and as marking certain distinct events, which have occurred on the globe.

ANCIENT CHRONOLOGY

extends from the Creation of the world, 4004 years Before Christ, to his Nativity.

For the purpose of fixing certain prominent events in the mind, by which we may be able to recollect other events connected with these, and thus establish an outline of History in the memory, we will divide Ancient Chronology into Ten Periods.

GENERAL DIVISION.

PERIOD I. will extend from the Creation of the world, 4004 years Before Christ, to the Deluge, 2348 years B. C. To this period we give the name of *Antediluvian*.

PERIOD II. will extend from the Deluge, 2348 years B. C. to the Calling of Abraham, 1921 years B. C. This is the period of *Confusion of Languages*.

PERIOD III. will extend from the Calling of Abraham, 1921 years B. C. to the Founding of Athens, 1556 years B. C. This is the period of *Egyptian Bondage*.

PERIOD IV. will extend from the Founding of Athens, 1556 years B. C. to the Dedication of Solomon's Temple, 1004 years B. C. This is the period of the *Trojan War*.

PERIOD V. will extend from the Dedication of Solomon's Temple, 1004 years B. C. to the Founding of Rome, 752 years B. C. This is the period of *Homer*.

PERIOD VI. will extend from the Founding of Rome, 752 years B. C. to the War between the Greeks and Persians, 496 years B. C. This is the period of *Roman Kings*.

PERIOD VII. will extend from the War between the Greeks and Persians, 496 years B. C. to the Birth of Alexander, 356 years B. C. This is the period of *Grecian Glory*.

PERIOD VIII. will extend from the Birth of Alexander, 356 years B. C. to the Destruction of Carthage, 146 years B. C. This is the period of *Roman Military Renown*.

PERIOD IX. will extend from the Destruction of Carthage, 146 years B. C. to the First Campaign of Julius Cæsar, 80 years B. C. This is the period of the *Civil War between Marius and Sylla*.

PERIOD X. will extend from the First Campaign of Julius Cæsar, 80 years B. C. to the Nativity of Jesus Christ, and the Commencement of the Christian era. This is the period of *Roman Literature*.

PERIOD I.
THE ANTEDILUVIAN PERIOD
 EXTENDS FROM THE
CREATION,



4004 years B.C. to the Deluge, 2343 years B. C.

Antediluvian, signifies *before the flood*, and the period under this name embraces 1656 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD I.

This period includes four principal events.

First, the Creation :

Second, the Transgression of Adam and Eve :

Third, the Murder of Abel by his brother Cain :

Fourth, the Prediction of the Deluge to Noah.

The only account we have of these events is contained in the Bible, which is extremely brief, though interesting, and in the highest degree authentic.

1. *The Creation* of this globe, including the creatures that inhabit it, occupied six days. God rested on the seventh day, and set it apart, ever after, as a day on which man is to worship him.

This event transpired 4004 years B. C. according to the Hebrew computation.

The particular manner in which the work of Creation proceeded, is left almost wholly to conjecture.—The Scriptural narrative is very concise, and moreover it does not aim at philosophical accuracy in the description of events. It speaks according to appearances, and in the language of common men.

It is generally supposed, that the successive parts of the Creation were instantaneously brought into being, on the different days assigned to them. Some learned men, however, have conjectured, and endeavoured to shew, that the work occupied some thousands of years, and that the *days* of which Moses speaks, as in some other parts of Scripture, mean not days literally, but periods of indefinite length.

This interpretation is supposed to correspond better with certain appearances on the earth's surface indicating a vast series of ages in its formation. But it may be remarked, that the fact itself on which this interpretation is founded, is extremely doubtful, and that it is taking unwarrantable liberty with the sacred narrative, to construe it in such a manner.

2. The *Transgression of Adam and Eve*, commonly called the Fall of man, is detailed in the third chapter of Genesis. It took place probably soon after the Creation, and has been most awful in its consequences.

The sum of the information conveyed to us in this account, taken in connexion with a statement in the preceding chapter, is, that man, being created innocent, with a disposition to do right, and in all cases to comply with the holy will of God, was placed in a state of trial.

In this situation he was at length beset by the Devil, in the form of a serpent, who persuaded him to depart from the path of rectitude, and to violate an express command of his Maker.

In consequence of this departure from duty, he lost the favour of God, his disposition became sinful, and

his whole posterity, partaking of his altered, depraved nature, became involved in all evil.

The Garden of Eden, in which man was originally placed, and in which this transaction occurred, is by some supposed to have been situated in Mesopotamia, now Diarbec, between the rivers Tigris and Euphrates. There is, however, a variety of opinion on the subject, and every quarter of the globe has, in its turn, been conjectured to include this delightful place. It is impossible at the present time to determine its locality with certainty, any farther than that it must have been some where in Asia.

3. *The Murder of Abel* was one of the first fruits of man's apostacy, and is supposed to have occurred about thirty years from the Creation. Cain was a husbandman: Abel was a shepherd. Abel had favour shown him by God on account of his piety. This circumstance excited the envy and jealousy of Cain, who accordingly slew his brother.

The particulars of this story may be found in Genesis, chap. iv. They are briefly these. Cain and Abel, at a certain time, both brought an offering to the Lord. Cain's offering consisted of the fruit of the ground. Abel's, of the firstlings of his flock. Abel's offering, being an animal sacrifice, had respect to the atonement of the promised seed. Cain's had no such respect; and this difference, originating doubtless from different moral feelings, was the reason why Abel was accepted, and Cain rejected.

In consequence of the distinction which God thus made between them, Cain was exasperated, and he wickedly wreaked his resentment on his unoffending brother. Taking an opportunity when they were in the field together, he rose against Abel, and slew him. The consequence to Cain was the awful curse of God.

4. *The Prediction of the Deluge to Noah*, was of the nature of a warning to him, in order that he might prepare for it. It was communicated to him 120 years before the deluge took place,

and 1536 years from the Creation. This judgment from God was to be sent on the world with a view to cut off the inhabitants, who had become exceedingly wicked.

The scriptural narrative informs us, that such was the warning given to Noah, and that such was the procuring cause of the deluge, and details the manner in which Noah was commanded to provide for the safety of himself and family. Gen. chap. vi. 11—21,—which consult.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD 1.

1. *Adam*, the first of the human race.
2. *Eve*, the first woman.
3. *Enoch*, translated to heaven on account of his piety.
4. *Methuselah*, the oldest man that has ever lived, being 969 years old when he died.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD 1.

1. This period embraces the extended space of 1656 years, and includes the whole history of the antediluvian world.

It would be very interesting to know more particularly the state of society, the extent of population, the progress in arts and sciences, the condition of political institutions, &c. during this period. But the scriptures give us very little information on these subjects.

2. We are told that “Jabal was the father of such as dwell in tents,” which shews that a rude knowledge of architecture was possessed; and that “Jubal was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ,” which shews that in addition to the mechanic arts, the science of music was not unknown.

We are informed that the posterity of Seth made discoveries in astronomy, which they engraved on two pillars, the one of brick, and the other of stone. The latter, it is affirmed, existed after the deluge, and remained entire in the time of Josephus; that is, nearly a century after Christ.

3. It is highly probable, from the long life of man

during this period—the average age being 6 or 7 hundred years—that very considerable progress was made in most branches of human pursuit.

Some suppose that man was aided by inspiration; but even if left to the ordinary operation of his faculties, the accumulation of individual knowledge and experience, during a life of 6 or 700 years, must have resulted in a successful cultivation of the arts and sciences.

4. Nothing definite can be settled as to the extent of population. Some imagine that it was very great, far exceeding what it is at present. But from various circumstances, the probability is, that it was much smaller, and that mankind were not widely diffused over the earth. If any thing on this subject may be ascertained or fairly conjectured from geological studies, the opinion of Cuvier, that the human race inhabited some narrow districts, is probably correct.

5. The government which existed in antediluvian times, was doubtless *patriarchal*; that is, the government which was held by the heads of separate families. A number of these might perhaps combine, and place themselves under the direction of some common ancestor.

This is the most natural form of government, and best corresponds with the veneration which must have been paid to persons so very aged, as the early fathers of mankind were; and also with the fact, that there is no mention made in the Bible of kingly authority, until after the deluge. Indeed, succeeding this event, the government was considerably patriarchal down to the time of Moses.

PERIOD II.

THE PERIOD OF CONFUSION OF LANGUAGES,

EXTENDS FROM THE
DELUGE,



2348 years *B. C.* to the Calling of Abraham
1921 years *B. C.* and embraces 427 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD II.

Under this period we may enumerate five principal events.

First, the Deluge.

Second, the Building of the Tower of Babel

Third, the Foundation of the Assyrian empire

Fourth, the Establishment of the First Dynasty of Chinese Emperors :

Fifth, the Foundation of the kingdom of Egypt

The Bible is our principal guide, in regard to the events of this period. The concurring testimony of profane history, though very fabulous, begins now to be of some little use.

1. *The Deluge*, or flood of waters which entirely covered the earth, destroyed the whole

human race, except eight individuals. It likewise destroyed the whole animal creation, except a pair of each species. This event occurred 2348 years B. C.

The Scriptures give us several particulars of this remarkable occurrence, which was so disastrous to our globe. They are briefly these. Noah, who was righteous amid the general wickedness, was commanded to build an ark, or large ship, in expectation of the deluge.

This structure, which was more than 480 feet in length, 81 in breadth, and 41 in height, was sufficiently capacious to answer the purpose for which it was designed.

It consisted of three stories, and was divided into many small apartments, for its intended inhabitants. At the appointed time the family of Noah, and all kinds of beasts, birds and reptiles, by pairs, entered the ark, and God caused the earth to be so overflowed, by rain from the skies, and by breaking up the fountains of the deep, that every creature without the ark perished.

After floating on the water 150 days, the ark rested on one of the summits of Mount Ararat, though it was several months afterwards that the waters entirely departed from the earth.

According to the computation of time used in Scripture, Noah and his companions continued in the ark one year and ten days.

Traditions respecting a general deluge have been handed down among almost all nations, and the earth bears visible marks of having experienced some great convulsion.

2. *The Building of the Tower of Babel*, which took place about 2247 years B. C. was commenced in the valley of Shinar, by Noah's posterity. As it was designed for improper purposes, it incurred the disapprobation of God, who miraculously confounded their language, and thus dispersed them into different nations.

From the sacred record it appears, that previous to this event, mankind spoke but one language—that in journeying from the east, in Armenia, where the first settlements were made after the flood, they came to a vast plain in Shinar, where they took up their dwelling.

Here they conceived the ambitious design of building a city, and a tower, whose top should reach to heaven, in order that they might both acquire renown, and prevent their dispersion over the earth.

God, however, having designed to form men into different nations, and being displeased with their presumption, and perhaps their covert attempt to introduce idolatry, prevented the accomplishment of their design, by confounding their language.

Being thus compelled to relinquish their undertaking, the city was named Babel, or *Confusion*, and the dispersion of men was the immediate consequence.

3. *The Foundation of the Assyrian Empire*, was laid by Ashur, about 2229 years B. C. That and the Babylonian empire continued separate for some time, but were at length united into one, by means of mutual conquests.

The name Assyria is derived from Ashur, the second son of Shem, and grandson of Noah. He built Nineveh, which became the capital of the empire, and was 60 miles in circumference.

Nimrod is supposed to have founded the Babylonian empire, by building Babylon, its capital; although it must have been an inconsiderable place, until it was embellished and enlarged by Semiramis. It then became the most magnificent city in the world, not excepting Nineveh itself.

Semiramis assembled 2,000,000 of men to assist in the work. Ninus, the successor of Ashur, is said to have united the kingdoms of Assyria and Babylon, by seizing on Chaldea and Babylon. He is said, also, to have made other extensive conquests.

The Assyrian chronology, it must be owned, is exceedingly perplexed and uncertain, and many events

recorded by profane historians are too marvellous to be credited.

4. *The Establishment of the First Dynasty of the Chinese Emperors.* is dated 2207 years B. C. It is called the dynasty of Hia, and was succeeded by four others antecedently to the Christian era. Of these, however, we have scarcely any knowledge.

The records of the Chinese empire extend to little more than 2000 years B. C. This people, however, like most of the oriental nations, claim a much higher antiquity. But Scripture, the state of human society, and authentic history, discountenance such pretensions.

According to Sir Isaac Newton, "all nations, before they began to keep exact records of time, seem to have been led away by the false pride of heightening their antiquity, and of ascribing their origin to some divinity, or renowned prince, often known only in fable, and handed down by legendary tradition."

Yuta, who was skilled in astronomy and agriculture, was at the head of the first dynasty, and under his reign the empire flourished.

5. *The Foundation of the Kingdom of Egypt,* is ascribed to Menes, (in scripture, Misraim.) 2188 years B. C. Menes, who was a descendant of Ham, joined together several independent principalities, which thenceforth became one monarchy.

Difficulties occur in the chronology of the Egyptians, but all historians agree, that Menes was the first monarch of that people. The states he united, were Thebes, Thin, Memphis, and Tanais. Under his reign, Egypt became civilized, and flourished in arts and sciences.

During the reign of Timaus, one of his successors, however, the government was subverted by a barbarous people from the East, who kept possession of the country for more than two centuries. Their government is called that of the *Shepherd Kings*.

From the time of Menes to the Shepherd kings is called the first age of the Egyptian monarchy. In this age the occult sciences were studied, and agriculture attended to. From the Shepherd kings to Sesostris was the second age. During this age, the art of war and architecture were chiefly cultivated.

Owing to the oppression of the times, many of the Egyptians left their country, and settled colonies in other lands, into which their sciences and arts were introduced. From Sesostris to Amasis was the the third age, which was an age of luxury and conquest.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD II.

1. *Noah*, from whom the earth was a second time peopled.
2. *Nimrod*, a warrior, and supposed to be the first king.
3. *Ashur*, who built Nineveh.
4. *Menes*, first king of Egypt, and civilizer of the East.
5. *Semiramis*, a female conqueror, and able sovereign.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD II.

1. This period, embracing 427 years, is a very interesting part of the general history of the world, as it includes one of the most remarkable events since the creation, (viz. the deluge)—the peopling of the earth after this event—the dispersion of mankind—the settlement and origin of nations, &c. Our information, however, is not copious, nor, in every respect, except where the Scriptures give an account, to be depended on.

2. In the settlement and origin of nations, it is to be gathered, and inferred from the scriptural account, that the three sons of Noah settled severally the three great portions of the Eastern continent—Japheth, Europe—Ham, Africa—Shem, Asia. Portions, however, of Asia, seem also to have been settled by Japheth and Ham.

It is evident that particular nations, such as the Medes, Greeks, Ethiopians, Egyptians, and some oth-

ers, derived their origin directly from several of the sons of Japheth, Ham and Shem, mentioned by name in scripture.

3. The population of the earth after the deluge must have increased with great rapidity, since in the course of two or three generations, we read of the founding of nations, and the building of cities, which soon became exceedingly distinguished.

4. The discoveries, inventions, and improvements made by mankind in those early times, must have been very considerable. At first, necessity, and afterwards convenience, urged the cultivation of the arts. The rudiments of some of the higher branches of knowledge appeared during this period of the world.

Naval architecture, if not invented, was greatly improved by the Phœnicians. In the time of Abraham they were known to be a commercial people, and probably began to be such some time before.

Astronomy originated with the Chaldeans. Geometry was first found out by the Egyptians. The occupations of the former, many of whom were shepherds watching their flocks by night, led to the knowledge of astronomy: the admeasurement of the lands annually disturbed by the overflowing of the Nile, induced to the cultivation of Geometry by the latter.

5. Heroic exploits, and the practice of war, were not unknown to this period. The earth being probably covered with woods, and at length greatly infested by wild beasts, led to the business of hunting, which was not an amusement, as now, but a means of self-defence. In this pursuit Nimrod became distinguished, and is supposed to have aimed at dominion over his fellow men. Hence appear to have arisen the projects of ambition, and the butcheries of war.

6. The religion of this period was doubtless at first the pure worship of God, especially in the family of Noah. But the knowledge of this holy Being seems soon to have been almost lost from among mankind.

Tradition introduced many absurd notions into religion, bringing on those gross ideas of the Deity, which so rapidly overspread the world. The number of false divinities continuing to multiply, was the occasion of the calling of Abraham.

PERIOD III.

THE PERIOD OF EGYPTIAN BONDAGE, EXTENDS FROM THE CALLING OF ABRAHAM.



1921 years *B. C.* to the *Founding of Athens*,
1556 years *B. C.* and embraces 365 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD III.

Five principal events are included within this period.

First, the Calling of Abraham :

Second, the Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah by fire from Heaven :

Third, the arrival of Inachus in Greece :

Fourth, the Selling of Joseph into Egypt :

Fifth, the Persecution of the Israelites by Pharaoh.

These events are chiefly matter of Sacred Record, to which we must repair for the requisite information, deriving at the same time what light we are able from profane history.

1. *The Calling of Abraham*, which was designed by Jehovah, to preserve him and his descendants from idolatry, with the promise that in him all the families of the earth should be

blessed, took place when he was 75 years old, 1921 years B. C.

Abraham was the tenth in lineal descent from Shem. He was born in Chaldea; but as God intended him to be the progenitor of a distinguished nation, and of the promised seed, he separated him from the other descendants of Shem, by causing Terah, his father, to remove from Chaldea into Haram.

Here Abraham intended to settle; but in obedience to the divine will, he removed into Canaan, which was appointed to be the inheritance of his posterity. To Abraham God committed the essential truths of religion, which had become so absurd, by means of idolatry. He formed of his family a peculiar people, with instructions to worship the true God alone, and in process of time, they were inclosed in the precincts of the land of Canaan.

The increase of Abraham's family was slow at first; but his grandson Jacob left a numerous offspring, who became the heads of the twelve tribes of Israel. Their very interesting history is minutely told in the sacred volume.

2. *The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, by fire from heaven*, was an awful expression of God's displeasure, on account of the enormous wickedness of their inhabitants. It took place about 1897 years B. C. during the life of Abraham, who interceded for the cities, but in vain.

This catastrophe, and its various preparatory circumstances, are recorded in the 18th and 19th chapters of Genesis, from which it appears that Lot, (Abraham's nephew) and his two daughters, who sojourned in Sodom, escaped barely with their lives. Other cities of less consequence, viz. Zeboim and Adma, were destroyed at the same time.

The plain on which these cities stood is described to have been pleasant and fruitful. It is now covered with water, forming what is called the Dead Sea, or Lake of Sodom. This sea and the adjoining country have many peculiarities. The water is said to be salt, bitter and nauseous to the taste, and to have a sulphurous smell.

Quantities of bitumen, which resemble pitch, are gathered in the vicinity.

3. *The Arrival of Inachus in Greece*, from Phœnicia, is connected with the foundation of the kingdom of Argos. This event took place 1857 years B. C.

Inachus is called the son of the ocean, because he came to Greece by sea. By some he is said to have been the last of the Titans, a Phœnician colony who gave the Greeks the first notion of civilization and religion, and introduced the worship of their own gods—Saturn, Jupiter, Ceres, &c.

The aborigines of Greece, who were denominated Pelasgi, Hiantes, &c. were extremely barbarous. They wandered in woods without law or government, having but little intercourse with each other. They clothed themselves with the skins of beasts; retreated for shelter to rocks and caverns; lived on acorns, wild fruit and raw flesh, and even devoured the enemies they slew in battle.

4. *The Selling of Joseph into Egypt*, by his brethren, was the effect of their envy and hatred, but overruled by the providence of God to bring to pass very important results. We date this event about 1729 years B. C.

The very affecting story of Joseph is recorded in several of the last chapters of Genesis, and is probably well known to the reader. A very brief outline is the following.

Joseph was the youngest son but one of the patriarch Jacob. He was greatly beloved by his father on account of his piety; and on the same account, aided by Jacob's partiality, hated by his brethren. An occasion being presented of injuring him, they, after various projects, found an opportunity of selling him to a company of Ishmaelites, who were travelling into Egypt.

Here he was sold again, and after various trials and changes, became by his merit connected with Pharaoh, married Potipherah's daughter, and arrived to be the person of the greatest consequence in the kingdom, next to the sovereign.

A famine which prevailed in that part of the world at that time, led his brethren into Egypt to buy corn, where great quantities of it were deposited, and of which Joseph had the distribution. Joseph, who knew his brethren while they were ignorant that it was he, after having sufficiently humbled and proved them, made himself known to them, to their utter astonishment and terror.

But forgiving their crime, and inviting his Father and family into Egypt, he settled them there, where they increased at length to a great nation.

5. *The Persecution of the Israelites by Pharaoh*, occurred after the death of Joseph, and under the administration of another king by the name of Pharaoh, "who knew not Joseph." It commenced about 1580 years B. C.; and was designed to retard the progress of the Israelites in power and numbers.

The children of Israel had become so numerous and powerful, that they began to be an object of fear to the Egyptians. The latter therefore took methods to prevent their prosperity; methods marked by great injustice and cruelty. The lives of the Hebrews were made wretched by hard service, and their male children were ordered to be drowned at their birth.

Nothing however could be done to prevent their increase; and after suffering great extremities, God at length raised them up a deliverer. The particulars of this persecution of God's chosen people, are given in the 1st and 5th chapters of Exodus.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD III.

1. *Abraham*, the immediate progenitor of the Hebrew nation.

2. *Melchisedec*, king of Salem, and "priest of the Most High God."

3. *Sesostris*, an Egyptian hero and conqueror.

4. *Joseph*, the first ruler of Egypt under Pharaoh.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD III.

1. This period, like the last, includes a portion of the

world's history, which is but partially illustrated by any records that we possess concerning it. The Bible contains the principal materials. It was the period of commencing civilization with one or two nations, and of considerable advancement in it, with some others.

In general the East was a number of ages ahead of the Northern or Western nations in civilization; and before the latter began to make much progress, the former was nearly at its height.

2. The dispensations of God towards his church hitherto, deserve our attentive study. When man first sinned and fell, God immediately promised a Saviour. This supported the piety of his people in the antediluvian age. When however their number decreased, and that of the wicked so increased, that the earth was filled as it were with iniquity, he destroyed its inhabitants.

After the re-peopling of the earth, and the vast augmentation of wickedness again, God, since he had resolved not to punish in a similar manner his offending creatures, separated a family from the rest of mankind, for the purpose of communicating, through them, the true religion to all succeeding generations.

The train of operations which, during this period, was laid by Jehovah, have had a most material influence on the moral state of the world ever since. Doubtless, but for the separation of Abraham and his family from the rest of mankind, the whole world would ever since have been overrun with idolatry.

3. We may safely infer that the arts and sciences made some progress during this period, though we have no very definite information on the subject. Probably some of these wonders of art, which yet exist in Egypt, may have been commenced during this period.

The art of writing seems as yet to have been unknown, although the Egyptians in particular had a certain mode of transmitting and recording knowledge, termed hieroglyphics. These consisted of emblems and figures, which represented those ideas that were intended to be conveyed.

4. The Eastern nations bordering on seas, began, during this period, to send colonies into countries at a distance. Thus Greece was colonized, and afterwards other countries in Europe and in Africa. Besides Argos, found-

ed by Inachus, the kingdom of Sycion, near Corinth, was founded some time before.

5. The traffic of nations between one another has been an employment which has progressively advanced from the earliest ages. During the time of Abraham, it had advanced so far, as that metals had become a medium of exchange.

We find a place of sepulture paid for by a certain weight of silver. A general superabundance of the necessities of life must be produced, before nations determine a certain quantity of gold or silver substances to be an equivalent for the exchangeable value of any commodity in barter.

PERIOD IV.

THE PERIOD OF THE TROJAN WAR, EXTENDS FROM THE FOUNDING OF ATHENS,



556 years B. C. to the Dedication of Solomon's Temple, 1004 years B. C. This is a period of 552 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD IV.

We may enumerate six principal events under this period.

First, the Founding of Athens :

Second, the Retreat of the Israelites from Egypt :

Third, the Introduction of Letters into Greece by Cadmus :

Fourth, the Argonautic Expedition :

Fifth, the Taking of Troy by the Greeks :

Sixth, the Establishment of Monarchy among the Israelites.

The facts recorded in profane history begin to be more interesting and authentic; though there is yet much fable. Scripture carries on its agreeable and well attested record.

1. *The Founding of Athens*, by Cecrops, an Egyptian, who carried thither a colony from the Nile, is dated 1556 years B. C. This event had an important connection with the subsequent refinement and literary distinction of Greece.

Cecrops, after fixing down in Attica, attempted to civilize the wild and barbarous natives of that region. Constructing twelve small villages, which afterwards united to the city of Athens, he prevailed upon the wandering tribes to fix their residence in them.

He enacted laws, and introduced the deities and religious worship of the Egyptians, which proved the first step towards that elegance which afterwards rendered Athens the most distinguished city on earth.

It may be here observed, that the Chronicle of Paros, preserved among the Arundelian marbles at Oxford, fixes the dates of the most remarkable events in the history of Greece, from the time of Cecrops to the age of Alexander the Great.

2. *The Retreat of the Israelites from Egypt*, was accomplished in a miraculous manner, under Moses their leader. This event took place about 1491 years B. C. and was connected with the destruction of vast multitudes of the Egyptians.

Moses was the most distinguished character of ancient times. Having by the Providence of God been preserved from drowning, through his exposure in infancy, being discovered by an Egyptian princess, was by this means brought up in the family of Pharaoh.

Selected by God as the instrument of saving the Israel-

ites, he was in due time called to his work ; and after a series of wonderful interpositions on the part of the Supreme Being, he led the people out from before Pharaoh, into the borders of the promised land. This event was connected with the most disastrous consequences to the Egyptians, their whole army who pursued the Israelites being drowned in the Red Sea.

During the wanderings of the Israelites in the wilderness, they received the divine law; and also their national institutions, by the hand of Moses, under the direction of Jehovah himself, by which they became distinguished from all other nations on earth. Having conducted them through many difficulties and dangers in sight of Canaan, he died without entering it himself, 1447 B. C.

His successor, Joshua, had the honour of conducting them into the promised land, having, by divine command, destroyed, for the most part, the profligate nations that inhabited it. Here he secured for them a permanent habitation.

3. *The Introduction of Letters into Greece by Cadmus*, about 1519 years B. C. was a circumstance which contributed most materially to the rapid advances made by the Greeks in civilization and knowledge.

It is generally agreed that Cadmus was a Phœnician. The alphabet which he introduced into Greece, consisted of sixteen letters, and the mode of writing was alternately from left to right, and from right to left.

He is also said to have taught the people navigation and commerce, the manner of cultivating wine, and the art of forging and working metals.

Cadmus founded the kingdom of Thebes, in which the monarchical form of government was more despotic than in any other of the Grecian states.

4. *The Argonautic Expedition* was the first great foreign enterprize of the Greeks, led by Jason, 1263 years B. C. It belongs to their mythology, though it was doubtless a real event. Its destination was to Colchis.

This is supposed to have been an adventure both for military and mercantile purposes. Under the allusion of a "golden fleece," the object was to open the commerce of the Euxine Sea, and to secure some establishments on its coast.

The plan of the voyage was marked out by the astronomer Chiron, who formed also, for the use of the seamen, a scheme of the constellations, accurately fixing the solstitial and equinoctial points.

This circumstance has enabled Sir Isaac Newton to reform the ancient chronology, by calculating the regular procession of the equinoxes from that period down.

5. *The Taking of Troy by the Greeks*, after a siege of ten years, occurred 1184 B. C. and was accomplished either by storm or surprize. This event has been greatly celebrated in ancient poetry.

The detail of the Trojan War rests chiefly on the authority of Homer, and as to its principal facts, is certainly deserving of credit. After Troy was entered by the Greeks, it was set on fire in the night, and was burnt to the ground. Not a trace of its ruins exists at the present time.

The state of the military art in Greece may be estimated from such an account as Homer has given us of the siege of Troy. The arts of attack and defence were very rude and imperfect. The siege was wholly of the nature of a blockade, and therefore necessarily protracted.

6. *The Establishment of Monarchy among the Israelites*, took place 1079 B. C. The people became dissatisfied with Theocracy, or the immediate government of God, and he, according to their request, gave them a king.

After the conquest of Canaan, the Israelites, with some intermission, were directed by leaders called Judges, during the space of 356 years. They acknowledged no other king but God, though they paid respect to the Judges, as the delegates of his power, and to the Priests, as the superintendants of his worship.

Some of these Judges were very eminent men, particularly Gideon, Samson, and Samuel, who was the last of them. As the people (though very unwisely) wished to

be like the nations around them, a king was granted them, through the ministration of Samuel.

Saul was the first king. His reign, prosperous at first, was at length marked by crime and ill success. David succeeded, who was one of the most pious, warlike, and prosperous monarchs that ever sat on the Israelitish throne. He greatly enlarged the bounds of Palestine by conquest, and built up the religious institutions of his country. His son Solomon, so celebrated for wealth and wisdom, succeeded him.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD IV.

1. *Moses*, the first Hebrew lawgiver and leader.

2. *Joshua*, a conqueror of Canaan, and pious military chieftain.

3. *Orpheus*, the father of poetry.

4. *Samson*, a Judge of Israel, and endowed with extraordinary strength.

5. *David*, king of Israel, a warrior and poet.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD IV.

1. During this period, the business of *colonization* continued to be carried on with great success. From such small beginnings communities arose, which soon became renowned in arts and arms.

Besides Athens and Thebes, which have been mentioned, Troy was founded by Scamander, Salamis was built by Teucer, and other important settlements were made, principally in Europe. Several were made also by the Greeks on the opposite coast of Asia Minor, viz. Ephesus, Smyrna, &c.

2. With the increase of nations, those arts and sciences that were then known, continued to spread. Letters having been introduced into Greece, a foundation was laid for that astonishing improvement which was afterwards made by this ingenious people.

Literature was soon cultivated by them, and poetry sprang up as early as the times of Orpheus, Linus and Musæus. We have no works, however, handed down to us from this people, prior to the days of Homer and Hesiod, who belong to the next succeeding period.

The Phœnicians had their early historians, but Sanchoniathon is the only name known to us. Moses, without any doubt, is the most ancient writer, whose works are now extant; and we have a succession of Hebrew writers from him down to the Captivity.

3. When all other nations of the earth were blinded by superstition, and devoted to the worship of false Gods, the light of the true religion shone on the community of the Israelites. By a very peculiar code of laws, they were wholly separated in their habits, and civil and religious institutions from the nations that surrounded them.

It was mostly during this period that the Mythology of the heathens, or their system of religious worship, sprang up, or was greatly matured and improved. Their Gods and Goddesses were merely deified men and women, who became illustrious by their exploits, or as in most instances was the fact, became notorious for their vices. The superstition common to rude nations gave rise to their famous oracles.

4. The magnificent cities, and works of art which were reared, or embellished during this period, are most of them scarcely visible in ruins. It is difficult now to ascertain even the site of Nineveh, Babylon or Troy. The Egyptian Memphis and Arsinoë are obliterated from the face of the earth. Even the mighty Thebes, and the classical Athens, lie prostrate in ruins.

The pyramids of Egypt are the most entire monuments of ancient art which remain to the present time. Diodorus, the historian, who lived before the birth of Christ, supposes the largest of these pyramids to have been built 1000 years before his day.

5. During this period the most celebrated of the solemn games among the Greeks were instituted. They were four in number, viz. the Olympic, the Pythian, the Nemean, and the Isthmean. They consisted chiefly in contests of skill in all athletic exercises; and the prizes were chiefly honorary marks of distinction. These games produced great political effect.

The Isthmean games were instituted 1322 years B. C. at Corinth. The Olympic games were instituted 1222 years B. C. by Hercules. They were not however regularly celebrated till revived a third time by Corœlius, B. C. 775. From this period they constitute an epoch, the

first certain one in profane history, to which all important events are referred.

6. The civilized nations of the East, which were in general probably about their height during this period, had amassed very considerable riches, as is apparent from the splendid cities they had built. Commerce, so far as it was pursued, was doubtless the great means of diffusing wealth.

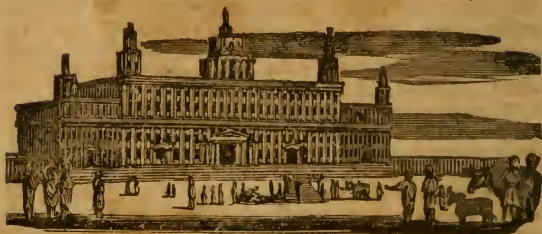
The riches amassed by David, and afterwards by Solomon, towards the close of this period, seem to have been immense. They centered very considerably in the famous city of Jerusalem. In the case of the Israelites, they were acquired by conquest and commerce both.

Commerce and naval architecture were not however, in these times, confined to the shores of Phœnicia and Palestine in the East, or of Egypt and the Indian Ocean in the South. In the short period intervening between the Argonautic and Trojan expeditions, the Greeks must have made very considerable improvements, at least in nautical science.

The Argonautic fleet must have consisted of vessels no better than our modern fishing boats. But the fleet sent out in the expedition to Troy, consisted of 1000 or 1200 ships, the largest of which carried 120 men each; the smallest, 50.

These ships, however, must have been very rudely constructed—they were only half decked—built without iron in any part, and even without the use of the saw, which was then not invented.

PERIOD V.
THE PERIOD OF HOMER,
 EXTENDS FROM THE DEDICATION OF
SOLOMON'S TEMPLE,



1004 years B. C. to the Founding of Rome, 752 years B. C. It includes the space of 252 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD V.

We may notice six principal events within this period.

First, the Dedication of Solomon's Temple :

Second, the Introduction of Homer's Poems into Greece.

Third, the Founding of the kingdom of Macedon by Caranus.

Fourth, the Reformation of the Republic of Lacedemon by Lycurgus.

Fifth, the Building of Carthage by Dido.

Sixth, the Preaching of Jonah to the Ninevites.

Towards the latter part of this period, portions of profane history begin to be certain: and sacred history, always certain, is still more minute and particular.

1. *The Dedication of Solomon's Temple at Jerusalem, took place 1004 years before the birth*

of Christ. It was performed by King Solomon in presence of all the assembled tribes of Israel, with the most solemn religious rites and ceremonies.

This magnificent structure was completed in about seven years. The plan had been devised by David, and materials, money and artificers provided for its execution. An incalculable amount of gold was employed in constructing it. It was probably the most superb and costly edifice of which antiquity can boast.

There have been many buildings much larger than this temple, but none perhaps in which the workmanship was more exquisite, or the materials more valuable. The body of the building was only a little more than 90 feet in length, 30 in breadth, and 45 in height. There were, however, a splendid porch, and numerous ornaments both within and without.

The reign of Solomon was characterized by abundance, peace and prosperity, but towards the close of it he met with trouble. His subjects became disaffected towards him, through the burdensome imposts laid upon them, to support his expenses, and he himself became luxurious and effeminate, and by idolatry brought dishonour on the cause of religion.

His wisdom however is proverbial, and his piety, we hope, was sincere, and his repentance deep. For his father David's sake, the evil threatened to his kingdom did not occur in his day, but it occurred during the reign of his son Rehoboam, when ten tribes revolted from their monarch, and constituted a separate kingdom.

2. *The Introduction of Homer's Poems from Asia into Greece*, contributed very considerably to the literary taste, distinction and spirit of the Greeks. They were brought into Greece about 886 B. C.

Homer was among the first, and probably the most eminent of all the writers of heathen antiquity. The literary world down to this day have bowed to his authority, and owned the force of his genius. His poems have been taken as the model of all similar poems written since his day.

They had a powerful effect on the minds of the aspiring Greeks; and though several ages elapsed before Greece shone out in literature and the arts, the productions of this bard had made the preparation, and laid the foundation of the splendid era which afterwards followed.

Lycurgus, who had travelled into Crete and Egypt, to observe the laws and institutions of those countries, at length visited Asia Minor, where he found the productions now spoken of.

As Homer was a wandering minstrel, and is supposed to have produced his Iliad and Odyssey in detached pieces, and separate ballads, it was not until some time afterwards that they were brought into the form they now assume. This was done by certain learned men, under the direction of Pisistratus, king of Athens.

3. *The Reformation of the Republic of Lacedemon by Lycurgus*, commenced 884 years B. C. By means of the institutions of this legislator, Lacedemon, from a weak and distracted state, arose to great distinction and power among the Grecian republics.

Lacedemon, or Sparta, was situated in Peloponnesus, the southern part of Greece, and upon the division of that country among the Heraclidæ, fell to the share of Arutodemus. On his death Sparta was governed jointly by his two sons, and this double monarchy, transmitted to the descendants of each, continued in the separate branches for near 900 years.

The state, by this means, was weakened by civil commotions, and the people, feeling the want of constitutional laws, chose Lycurgus to be their legislator. His arrangements were in many respects peculiar, and cannot here be well detailed.

It may be stated, however, generally, that he made an equal division of land among the people, abolished the use of gold and silver, substituting iron as a medium of exchange, instituted a similarity of dress, and ordained that all should take their meals in public.

Children he took from their parents at the age of seven years, and placed them in public schools, where they experienced a rigid discipline, which fitted them to act well

their part as citizens and men. The laws of Lycurgus continued in force 500 years, during which time Sparta conquered many of the neighbouring states, and became the most powerful republic in Greece.

4. *The Founding of the Kingdom of Macedon by Caranus*, we date 795 years B. C. Obscure at first, it became a powerful monarchy, and at length overthrew the liberties of Greece.

The most that we know of Caranus is, that he was an Argive by birth, and a descendant of Hercules. He established the regal government in Macedonia, which in spite of the dangers that proved fatal to it in most of the Grecian states, subsisted for the space of 647 years, in this kingdom.

The reign of the warlike Philip first brought Macedon into notice, and in the battle of Cheronæa he subjected all the Grecian communities to his dominion. Of his still more warlike son Alexander the Great, we shall have hereafter an occasion to speak.

5. *The Building of Carthage by Dido*, took place, according to one account, 869 years B. C. or, according to another, not until a hundred years later. Its early history is but little known. Its subsequent history is closely interwoven with that of Rome.

Dido was a Tyrian princess, who, being persecuted by the tyranny of her brother Pygmalion, left her country, with a train of followers, and settled in Africa, at one or other of the periods above mentioned. She fixed her habitation at the bottom of a gulph on a peninsula, near the spot where Tunis now stands.

It is probable she might have found a few inhabitants in the place, whom its local advantages had induced to settle there; but to her and her attendants, Carthage is doubtless indebted for a regular foundation.

The colony had the same language, and nearly the same laws, and the same national character with the parent state. The city became at length, particularly at the period of the Punic wars, one of the most splendid in the

world. It had under its dominion 300 small cities bordering on the Mediterranean sea.

Possessing a population of 700,000 inhabitants, and with an immense number of temples and public buildings, not a wreck of all its grandeur now remains. It lies buried under the ruins of its own walls. The casual appearance of drains and reservoirs are the only objects which can now lead to the discovery of its original position:

6. *The Preaching of Jonah to the Ninevites*, an event of very considerable interest, as related in the Bible, is dated 806 years B. C. The object of the preaching was to denounce the divine judgments against this people, on account of their wickedness.

Jonah, a prophet of Jehovah, was commanded to make known the divine displeasure against the inhabitants of Nineveh, and to declare their doom, since their iniquities had nearly ripened them for destruction. Being however sinfully averse to the performance of this unpleasant task, he attempted to flee in a ship to Tarshish.

Here he was overtaken by the just judgment of God, in being thrown overboard by the seamen, into the midst of the sea, where he must have immediately perished, had not God interposed in a miraculous manner, to save his life. This was effected in consequence of being swallowed by a very large fish, in the stomach of which he was preserved, during three days and nights, when God caused the fish to cast him out on dry land.

Taught by such an admonition, he, upon a second application from the Lord, repaired to the scene of his duty, and declared the divine will as he was directed. The Ninevites, alarmed by the threatened prediction, humbled themselves before Jehovah, in consequence of which a temporary respite was granted them.

We learn however from history, that the Assyrian empire, of which Nineveh was the capital, ended soon afterwards under Sardanapulus, and that three monarchies rose from its ruins, viz. Nineveh, Babylon, and the kingdom of the Medes.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD V.

1. *Solomon*, endowed with extraordinary wisdom.
2. *Homer*, the greatest of the Grecian poets.
3. *Sesostris*, an Egyptian, a conqueror of Asia.
4. *Lycurgus*, reformer of the Spartan republic, and wise legislator.
5. *Isaiah*, the greatest of the prophetic writers.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD V.

1. During this period the nations whose civilization had previously commenced continued to advance. Syria and Greece began to rise into notice, and in the latter especially, some very wise institutions were established. Syria, though it rapidly advanced in power, was a kingdom of very short duration.

Some of the more ancient nations were on the wane. The Israelitish monarchy, which was at its height under David and Solomon, began to decline after the death of the latter. The old Assyrian empire tottered to its fall. As we have already learnt, the foundations of a few mighty sovereignties were laid during this period, particularly those of Macedon and Carthage.

2. The state of the arts during this period, may be judged of from the works by which it was distinguished. Artists in those times had very imperfect ideas of the elegant and beautiful. They were fond of that which was shewy and ostentatious, unless the temple at Jerusalem be an exception.

Of this the Egyptian pyramids, some of which were probably built during this period, are a proof, as also many of the stupendous works with which Babylon was adorned. The correct and tasteful in architecture were little known.

By the time now under review, several nations had made considerable proficiency in the arts of statuary, sculpture and embroidery. The statues of Babylon in particular were quite numerous. The Phœnicians were skilled in the manufacture of precious stuffs, and in a great degree, in the art of dyeing in particular.

3. The learning and literature of these times were not great, except in a very few individuals; as, for instance, Solomon, Homer, and Hesiod. As to poetry, it was very ancient in Greece; but though Orpheus, Musæus and Linus preceded Homer, he was the only master of poetry, and the poet of all ages and nations.

The philosophy of those times was a species of wild mythology; sometimes religious, sometimes moral, and sometimes political: such as is to be found in the *Orphics*, and in Homer and Hesiod.

3. Commerce flourished in a degree which, for this early period of the world, must appear somewhat surprizing. The fleets of Israel, under the direction of Tyrian mariners, traded to the land of Ophir, which some suppose to be a district in Ethiopia, and others suppose to be some part of India. Their course was probably by the Red Sea.

Doubtless during this period considerable improvement was made in the construction of their vessels, as otherwise so long voyages could not have been prosecuted with any degree of safety or convenience.

5. The monarchical form of government generally prevailed except among the Greeks, some of whom exhibited the earliest, though very imperfect, modes of a republican government and free institutions.

Monarchs were mostly absolute and despotic—masters of the lives and properties of their subjects, and from the samples which we have among the Assyrian and Babylonian princes, and the kings of Israel, we may conclude that they were almost or wholly a very worthless and despicable race.

6. As during the preceding period, so in this, the light of the true religion shone only among the chosen people of God, unless it may have been, that a few individuals in the surrounding nations obtained some partial and transient glimpses of the truth. It is with considerable reason supposed, that several of the ancient sages, at different times, acquired some portion of the information contained in the Scriptures.

But, though the true religion was known only to the Hebrews as a community, it began to disappear among them. After the revolt of the ten tribes, for political as well as religious reasons, a new temple and a new priesthood were instituted, in consequence of which very es-

sential deviations from the original institution of Moses obtained, and their religion became a mixture of Judaism and pagan idolatry.

An awful series of vice, wars, massacres, servitude, famine and pestilence, followed this separation. Some, however, of the kings of Judah, were pious men, which was not the fact with the kings of the ten tribes, and the revelation of Jehovah was preserved only among the Jews in its purity, by means principally of the temple and worship which existed in Jerusalem.

PERIOD VI.

THE PERIOD OF ROMAN KINGS,

EXTENDS FROM THE FOUNDING OF

ROME,



752 years B. C. to the War between the Greeks and Persians, 490 years B. C. The length of this period is 262 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD VI.

Six principal events are to be assigned to this period :

First, the Foundation of Rome by Romulus :

Second, the Carrying of the ten tribes of Israel into captivity :

Third, the Taking of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar :

Fourth, the Conquest of Babylon by Cyrus the Great :

Fifth, the Return of the Jews from their captivity :

Sixth, the Abolition of the regal government at Rome.

Profane history now rises in authenticity and accuracy, and the history of different nations is consequently more interesting, and to be depended on. The fabulous times end soon after the beginning of this period.

1. *The Foundation of Rome by Romulus*, 752 years before the Christian era, was connected with the rise and establishment of the most powerful empire which has ever existed. The city was peopled by runaway slaves and criminals, and at first had neither laws, nor rulers, and but few women.

Romulus was the son of Rhea Sylvia, a vestal, and was, together with his twin-brother Remus, preserved in infancy in a remarkable manner. Being, by the death of his brother, at the age of eighteen years, left sole commander of a band of robbers, he began the foundation of what has since been called "the eternal city."

It took the name of its founder, and was built upon the Palatine hill. The city was almost square, and about a mile in circumference, containing 1000 houses, more properly huts. Even the palace of Romulus was built of reeds, and thatched with straw.

Having become king, he introduced order and discipline, which gradually improved under Numa, and several succeeding sovereigns. The circumstances in which this people were placed, naturally gave rise to continual animosities, which were commonly settled by battles, in which they were almost always victorious.

Romulus divided the people into three tribes, and each tribe into ten companies, each of which consisted of 100 men, headed by a centurion. He divided the land into three parts; one for the support of government, another for the maintenance of religion, and a third into portions of two acres to every citizen.

2. *The Carrying of the ten tribes of Israel into captivity*, by Shalmanazer, put an end to the Is-

raelitish kingdom. It occurred 721 years B. C. and was the consequence, under Providence, of their awful sinfulness.

The ten tribes had existed as a separate kingdom from the time of Jeroboam, under a succession of irreligious princes. The city of Samaria was their capital.

Under their last king Hosea, Samaria was besieged by Shalmanazer, and, after three years, taken and plundered. The Assyrian king destroyed the kingdom, by leading the greater part of the inhabitants into captivity, who were dispersed throughout Assyria, and never more returned.

Some few, who remained in Canaan, were intermixed with strangers, and from that mixture sprung the motley race, which were afterwards known under the name of Samaritans. The prophets describe the sufferings of the Israelites as exceedingly great, and brought upon them by their departure from the institutions of Moses, and by their general and monstrous wickedness.

3. *The Taking of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar*, followed the destruction of Samaria, after the lapse of little more than a century, viz. 606 B. C. The city and its temple were razed to their foundations.

After the extinction of the Israelitish nation, already mentioned, the kingdom of Judah enjoyed but a precarious existence. It was invaded at different times by the Babylonians, rendered tributary, and finally subdued.

Jerusalem was taken after a twelve month's siege.—Zedekiah, the king of Judah, and his family, were taken prisoners; the latter were put to death; but the miserable father, after being obliged to witness the scene, had his eyes put out, and was carried captive to Babylon in chains.

The captain of Nebuchadnezzar, agreeably to orders, levelled Jerusalem, the temple, and the royal palace to the ground, and laid waste the country far and near. All the principal persons and the most skilful artists of every kind, were removed to Babylon.

4. *The Conquest of Babylon by Cyrus the*

Great, terminated the Babylonian empire. The city was entered by stratagem. Belshazzer being shut up in his capital, was killed, and Babylonia was made a province of Persia. This event happened 538 years B. C.

Cyrus is celebrated both in profane and sacred history. In the providence of God he was appointed as the restorer of the Jews from their captivity, whom he treated with great kindness.

He mounted the throne of Persia, which was an inconsiderable power before his time, succeeding his father Cambyses in that sovereignty, and his uncle Cyaraxes in the sovereignty of the Medes. These empires he united. Besides the Babylonians, he vanquished the Lydians, subjected the greatest part of Lesser Asia, and made himself master of Assyria and Arabia.

Cyrus spent the last part of his life in consolidating his vast conquests, being greatly beloved not only by own natural subjects, but by those of the conquered nations.

5. *The Return of the Jews from the Captivity*, was accomplished by means of Cyrus, who published an edict permitting their return. This event, which occurred during the first year of the sole reign of Cyrus, is dated 536 years B. C.

The Jews were held in captivity to the Babylonians just seventy years. Many of them seem to have been made truly humble and pious, by means of their calamity, and they adhered resolutely to the worship of their fathers.

Cyrus restored to them all the vessels of the temple, which Nebuchadnezzar had brought with him from Jerusalem. He permitted them to rebuild the temple, and even furnished them with means. This work they accomplished in four years.

The history of the Jews is continued in the Old Testament about 100 years after their return, during which period they were greatly favoured by the successors of Cyrus, especially from the time of Darius, and under Artaxerxes, the Ahasuerus of the scriptures. The scripture narrative ends at the above named period.

6. *The Abolition of the regal government at Rome*, was occasioned by the tyranny of Tarquin, surnamed the proud, its seventh King. This event happened 509 years B. C. Brutus and Collatinus were the chief agents in bringing it about.

Tarquin ingratiated himself with the lower orders, to weaken, by their means, the power of the higher: but being extremely insolent and cruel, he at length disgusted all classes of his subjects.

A rape committed by his son Sextus on Lucretia, the wife of Collatinus, who had, in a paroxysm of grief, killed herself, roused the vengeance of her husband and friends, particularly the stern and inflexible Brutus; the consequence of which was his expulsion with ignominy from Rome, and with him the utter abolition of a monarchical government among the Romans. After this event, annual consuls were chosen.

It is not to be concealed, however, that there are circumstances which throw a degree of suspicion on this portion of the Roman history. It is to be noted that but seven kings reigned during this period, which was 241 years, and that some of these died violent deaths.

Moreover, it is allowed that there were no historians for the first five centuries posterior to the building of Rome: and Livy testifies, that almost all the ancient records were destroyed, when the Gauls took the city in 385 B. C.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD IV.

1. *Romulus*, founder and first king of Rome.
2. *Sappho*, a Greek poetess, inventor of the Sapphic verse.
3. *Solon*, Legislator of Athens, and one of the wisest men of Greece.
4. *Thales*, founder of the Ionic philosophy.
5. *Cyrus*, a wise and successful prince, who conquered most of the East.
6. *Anacreon*, a Greek poet, and father of Anacreontic verse.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD VI.

1. The fate of the Hebrew nation, one portion of which had ceased to exist, and the other had ceased to exist independently, during this period, forms an impressive comment on the dealings of God with communities. It manifests his regard of the principles of eternal justice, and in the case of the Hebrews in particular, confirms the prophetic declarations of scripture.

True religion must have been but little known in the world, since among God's chosen people so many enormities existed. A small portion of the Jews kept the hallowed flame alive, and the divine designs in regard to the great work of Redemption, afterwards to be accomplished, seemed to be wonderfully fulfilled, in the kind treatment which the Jews received from the sovereigns of Persia.

The common virtues of humanity, however, the virtues of heroic ages, distinguished the nations that were now rising to importance, particularly the Greeks and the Romans, the latter of whom had just begun to make a figure in Italy. False systems of religion had received an accession of strength during this period, particularly the Magianism of the East, in the writings of Zoroaster.

2. During this period, civilization made very considerable progress, particularly in Greece, under the institutions of Lycurgus and Solon, and were ripening for that perfection which they attained in the next succeeding period.

The Romans at this era, though a sensible and energetic, were but a half civilized people. Their language was in that imperfect state which characterizes the language of every infant nation. The very few fragments of sentences which have come down to us, such as those that are found in the "*Fratres Arvales*," and "*Leges Regiæ*," shew a vast difference of the language then in use, and that which was employed during the Augustan age.

Greece was beginning to be adorned by several eminent poets and philosophers, while some of the more ancient nations in the East were sinking, or had already sunk in decay. The Gnomists, or seven sages of Greece, flourished during this period.

3. The human mind, it is said, is never stationary: if it

does not go forward, it retrogrades. It evidently made a considerable advance during the present period, and mankind, by discoveries made in science and philosophy, increased their stock of conveniences and comforts.

We cannot tell exactly the progress made at this time in commerce, navigation, and the other branches of human industry, as the records of these things are incomparably more scanty, than of the wars and civil convulsions which took place. Those improvements in the means of living, and the enjoyments of life, which are so much thought of in these times, seem to have been affairs of minor importance among the ancients.

The inventions of later and quite modern times have multiplied, beyond account, the conveniences and comforts of life; yet the spirit of invention and discovery, in the early period under review, was awaked in several countries, particularly in Greece. Even Rome had built her magnificent Capitol.

4. Most of the governments which existed during this period, as in former periods, were monarchical; yet that of Greece was a confederated republic, similar, but much inferior both in theoretic and practical excellence to that of these United States.

Rome, before the conclusion of this period, is found added to the list of republics. Her government previously had been strictly monarchical. The times however were marked by violence, and a people whose origin was that of a lawless banditti, ill brooked the restraints of a monarchy.

5. The Assyrian empire ceased to exist, upon the taking and destruction of Nineveh, its capital, by Nebuchadnezzar. But other nations, we have seen, were rising into existence and importance in the West.

Several places of consequence were founded in this period, as Tarentum, in Italy, by the Parthenians; Chalcedon by the Megarians; Byzantium by Pausanias, king of Sparta; and Cyrene, in Africa, by Battus of Lacedemon.

PERIOD VII.

THE PERIOD OF GRECIAN GLORY, EXTENDS FROM THE WAR BETWEEN THE GREEKS AND PERSIANS,



490 years B. C. to the birth of Alexander, 356 B. C. The length of this period is 134 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD VII.

Six principal events are included in this period.

First, the Battle of Marathon :

Second, the Destruction of Leonidas and his band at Thermopylæ :

Third, the Dictatorship of Cincinnatus at Rome :

Fourth, the Retreat of 10,000 Greeks under Xenophon :

Fifth, the Taking of Rome by the Gauls :

Sixth, the War between Thebes and Sparta.

The sources of information in regard to events of this date, are most of them too authentic to be doubted. Some of the most eminent of the Greek historians then flourished, viz. Herodotus, Thucydides and Xenophon.

1. *The Battle of Marathon* was fought between the Greeks and Persians, in which the latter were defeated with great slaughter. The Greeks were led on by Miltiades, and the Persians fought under Darius their king. This event occurred 490 years B. C.

This war originated in the ambition of Darius, and his passion for revenge. After losing a large number of ships, he effected a landing of his troops in Eubæa, and poured down impetuously on Attica. Miltiades met them on the plain of Marathon, and slaughtered 6300 of the enemy, while his own loss was only 190 men.

For his heroic conduct Miltiades received from the Athenians, his countrymen, the basest ingratitude. He died of his wounds in prison, whither he had been thrust upon the imputation of treason, in an unsuccessful attack soon afterwards upon the isle of Paros.

An incident in this war, mentioned by Justin the historian, may be related. Cynegyrus, the brother of the poet Æschylus, having performed prodigies of valour, pursued the Persians to the shore, and laid hold of a ship which was ready to sail, with his right hand.

Some of the enemy seeing this, cut it off, on which he seized it with his left; and being deprived of that also, he fastened his teeth in it, and thus expired.

2. *The Destruction of Leonidas and his band at Thermopylæ*, was an eminent instance of devoted patriotism. It took place in an engagement which they had with the Persians at that celebrated pass. Leonidas and his 300 men resisted the whole Persian army, till they were overpowered and crushed by numbers. The date of this event is 480 years B. C.

Xerxes, the son of Darius, in prosecution of his father's plans, had invaded Greece. It is estimated that his army consisted of 2,000,000 of fighting men, besides vast numbers of women and domestics—the largest army and assemblage of persons of which history gives an account.

To transport so vast a body of people, he employed 1200 ships of war, and 3000 ships of burden. Landing in Thessaly, he proceeded by rapid marches to Therinopylæ, a narrow defile on the bay anciently called *Maliacus*.

Leonidas, king of Sparta, was chosen to oppose this immense force with only 6000 men. During two days the Persians strove in vain to force their way, and were repeatedly repulsed with great slaughter. Opposition however was fruitless, on account of the immense disparity of numbers.

Foreseeing certain ruin, the Spartan king commanded all to retire but three hundred of his countrymen. His motive was to shew the Persians what sort of people they had to encounter, and to acquire immortal fame. He and his brave men were all destroyed.

3. *The Dictatorship of Cincinnatus at Rome*, is dated 456 years B. C. He hastened to resign it at the expiration of fourteen days, having rescued a Roman army from destruction, defeated a powerful enemy, and rendered other signal services to his country.

After Rome had become a republic, the executive power was held by two consuls annually chosen from among the Patricians at first, and afterwards from among the Plebeians also, or the lower order of the people, when the government became altogether democratical. Besides these, there were other officers entrusted with great power, as the tribunes chosen from among the Plebeians, and for a few years, the Decemviri.

The office of a Dictator was a temporary despotism, resorted to in times of imminent danger. The Dictator had absolute and unlimited authority, to provide for the public safety and defence, by enrolling all the citizens who were capable of bearing arms, and by putting to death any that should refuse obedience.

Cincinnatus, previously to being called to the dictatorship, had been Consul; but retiring to his little farm in the neighbourhood of Rome, he hoped to enjoy, during the remainder of life, domestic and rural tranquillity. The public danger, however, upon the invasion of the Æqui

and Volci, required a person of his great talents to hold this high office

He acquitted himself in it to the satisfaction of all parties, though the times were extremely turbulent. By extricating the army of one of the Consuls, which was hemmed in by the enemy, from its perilous situation, and by defeating the enemy, and taking their city, he probably saved Rome itself from destruction.

4. *The Retreat of 10,000 Greeks under Xenophon*, through an enemy's country 1600 miles in extent, was an instance of astonishing skill and success. It happened 401 years B. C. and is admirably described by Xenophon himself.

A younger brother of Artaxerxes Mnemon formed the project of dethroning him, and, with the aid of 13,000 Greeks, engaged him in battle near Babylon, but was defeated and slain.

The remainder of the Grecian army, amounting to 10,000 men, were necessitated either to submit to the enemy, or to make good their retreat from Babylon to the banks of the Euxine. They chose the latter; and notwithstanding incredible hardships and dangers, they succeeded entirely.

Their loss was not more than 1500 men, from sickness, hardships, casualties and battles, during the whole course. This retreat is reckoned the most celebrated in history, and, together with a beautiful account of it from Xenophon, has acquired for him and his countrymen signal honour.

But while the Greeks were so illustrious in war, the lustre of their character, particularly that of the Athenians, was greatly tarnished by their treatment of Socrates, their countryman, about this time. This most eminent of heathen philosophers fell a victim to the resentment of the Athenians, on account of his teaching a purer and more rational religious worship, than that which prevailed among his countrymen.

5. *The Taking of Rome by the Gauls*, was effected under Brennus, their leader, 385 years B. C. Rome was devastated and burnt by these

barbarous invaders, who were, however, quickly expelled, and the city was rebuilt with wonderful rapidity.

The Gauls, a branch of the great nation of the Celtæ, had opened to themselves a passage through the Alps at four different periods, and were at this time established in the country between those mountains, and the Appenines.

Commanded by Brennus, they laid siege to the Etruscan Clusium, the people of which, who were destitute of a warlike character, besought the aid of the Romans. Brennus attacking the latter, pushed his successes as far as the gates of Rome, entered the city, and overthrew and burnt the whole of it, except the capitol.

While he was engaged in the siege of that strong citadel, Camillus, the Dictator, had assembled a large army, with which he entered Rome, and furiously attacking the barbarians, he put them to flight, and banished them for ever from the city.

6. *The War between Thebes and Sparta*, commenced about 371 years B. C. The other Grecian states were associated with Sparta; but Thebes, though alone, under Epimanondas, maintained its ground, and triumphed in several engagements.

The glory which the Greeks acquired in the Persian war, rendered them vain and insolent, and, disagreeing among themselves, they engaged in the most destructive and unnatural hostilities. The Athenians began the spirit of domineering, but being subdued by the Spartans, the latter became insolent in their turn.

Thebes at length engaged in a contest against Sparta, and indeed against all the associated states of Greece. Epimanondas, leading the Theban armies, defeated his enemy at the celebrated battle of Leuctra, and eight years after, still further humbled their power at the battle of Mantinea, in which the Theban commander was slain.

Though the Thebans became independent and formidable among the Grecian states, solely from the wise counsels and vigorous measures of Epimanondas, the Spartans

had but little cause for exultation at his death. This event may be said to have paved the way for the entire subjugation of Greece, to a foreign power.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD VII.

1. *Confucius*, the Great Chinese philosopher.
2. *Herodotus*, a Greek, the father of profane history.
3. *Pindar*, the chief of the Grecian lyric poets.
4. *Socrates*, the greatest of heathen moralists.
5. *Thucydides*, an eminent Greek historian.
6. *Hippocrates*, the father of medicine.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD VII.

1. Greece at this time reached the zenith of her glory. Her philosophers, historians, poets and artists, are too numerous to be here mentioned. Indeed a succession of them continued a hundred years later than this period. A taste for literature and the fine arts survived long after public spirit and heroic virtue had departed.

With Greece this was emphatically the era of liberty, heroism and military enterprize. The names of Miltiades, Aristides, Themistocles, Cimon, Pericles, Pelopidas, and Epimanondas, without being associated particularly with literary greatness, shed a lustre over the annals of Greece.

In the useful and necessary arts, such as agriculture, manufactures and commerce, the Greeks were never greatly distinguished. But in those which are called the *fine arts*, they surpassed all other ancient nations.

The administration of Pericles was the era of splendour and luxury. The arts broke out at once with surprising lustre; and architecture, sculpture, and painting, were carried to perfection.

2. The Romans continued comparatively an unenlightened people, but pursued with energy and success their system of war and conquest. No authors as yet appeared among them, although their language doubtless became

improved by the extension of their intercourse with neighbouring nations, particularly with Greece.

We hear but little of the Asiatic nations during this period. They come principally into view, in their wars with the Greeks; but from the time of Xerxes they appear to have become, in a degree, enervated.

The Assyrian and Babylonian empires had come to an end, and Egypt, in Africa, constituted a part of the Persian empire, from the time of Cambyses, 525 B. C. until Alexander vanquished Darius.

3. It is important to trace the events in Jewish history, from their intimate connection with the true religion in the world. In their dependent state under the sovereigns of Persia, the Jews continued to enjoy a degree of prosperity. This was the case with them until the death of Alexander.

Darius manifested his favour towards them during his long reign. Xerxes, his son, confirmed their privileges. Under Artaxerxes they were still more favoured, through the influence of his queen, Esther, a Jewess. From this prince, Ezra obtained very liberal donations, to be applied to the service of the temple, and full powers to govern the Jews agreeably to the divine constitution.

A similar commission was granted to Nehemiah, who rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem, and reformed many abuses both in religion and in the administration of government. After Ezra and Nehemiah, we find no more governors of Judea, which probably became subject to the governor of Syria.

Under these favourable circumstances, the cause of religion became prosperous for a period, and thus the light that was in the world was kept from being utterly extinguished. Greece, in the height of its glory, knew not the true God; and this is always the fact, where revelation does not enlighten the human mind.

4. Navigation and commerce have made more or less progress from the earliest time. During the present period, sea-fights became very frequent, and immense armaments by sea were sent both by the Greeks and Persians. This fact shews the progress made in ship-building, though doubtless this art was still very imperfect, compared with the state of it in modern times.

5. The best models of a popular form of government

among the ancients, were exhibited in Greece and Rome during this period. But they were far from being perfect, and their deficiency was connected with a vast many evils. Nothing was more common than revolution, faction and bloodshed.

The condition of the people under those governments was very ineligible, compared with the best governments of modern times. In all the states of Greece, the slaves formed the actual majority of the inhabitants. To this miserable class of men the free citizens were rigorous bond-masters. Bondage being a consequence of the contraction of debts even by freemen, a great proportion of these were subject to the tyranny of their fellow-citizens.

PERIOD VIII.

THE PERIOD OF ROMAN MILITARY RENOWN,

EXTENDS FROM THE BIRTH OF

ALEXANDER,



*356 years B. C. to the Destruction of Carthage,
146 years B. C. The length of this period is
210 years.*

This period comprises seven principal events.

First, the Subjugation of the Grecian states to the dominion of Philip.

Second, the Overthrow of the Persian Empire by Alexander.

Third, the Partition of the Macedonian Empire into four great monarchies.

Fourth, the Defeat of Pyrrhus by the Romans.

Fifth, the first Punic War.

Sixth, the second Punic War.

Seventh, the Subjugation of Macedonia and Greece by the Romans.

The Grecian and Roman annals supply the most authentic materials for this period. It is an era prolific in events, particularly of defeats and conquests.

1. *The Subjugation of the Grecian States to the dominion of Philip*, was the result of the battle of Cheronea, fought 338 years B. C. In this battle the liberty of all Greece was at stake, and it was lost by the success of the Macedonian king.

While Greece was embroiled in domestic dissensions, and was beginning to be enervated by luxury, the consequence of her foreign conquests, Philip mounted the throne of Macedon. He soon conceived the ambitious design of bringing that noble country under the yoke.

An occasion was soon found. An attempt of the Phocians to plunder the temple of Delphos, excited the *sacred war*, in which almost all the republics took a part. The Thebans and Thessalians soliciting Philip's aid, he commenced hostilities by invading Phocis, the key to the territory of Attica.

Demosthenes, by his eloquence, endeavoured to arouse the apprehensions of the Athenians, his countrymen, and succeeded so as to induce them to make a vigorous effort for their liberties. But the event was unsuccessful. Philip met them at Cheronea, and the fortunes of that day fixed the condition of Greece.

It was not, however, his policy to treat them as a conquered people. Their separate and independent governments they retained, while he controlled all the national movements. In a general council of the states, being chosen generalissimo of the forces of the nation, he meditated the invasion of Persia, but was soon after cut off, by private assassination.

2. *The Overthrow of the Persian Empire by Alexander*, is dated 330 years B. C. It had subsisted 206 years from the time of Cyrus the Great. Its fate was decided in the battle of Arbela, fought between Alexander and Darius.

In this battle Darius is said to have lost 300,000 men. Two other battles had been previously fought between Alexander and the Persian monarch, in both of which the former was successful. Darius soon afterwards being betrayed by one of his own satraps, was cruelly murdered.

Alexander had taken up his father's project of conquering Persia, and was in like manner appointed by the Grecian states commander in chief of their forces. He took with him only 35,000 men, and with this small force he not only conquered Persia, but Syria, Egypt, and India, and meditated the design of proceeding to the eastern ocean.

His army refusing to second his wishes, he was obliged to return, after having penetrated to the Ganges. Stung with mortification at the limits assigned to his conquests, which he vainly believed would be commensurate with the globe, he abandoned himself to every excess of luxury and debauchery.

While he tarried at Babylon on his return home, he suddenly died, in a fit of debauch, in the 33d year of his age, and 13th of his reign.

3. *The Partition of the Macedonian Empire into four great Monarchies*, took place about twelve years after the death of Alexander, viz. 312 years B. C. Ptolemy, Lysimachus, Cassander, and Seleucus, four generals of Alexander, made this division among themselves.

From the time of Alexander's death to this division of the empire, there was a constant series of wars and intrigues among his generals. This was the natural effect of his having nominated no successor. In reply to his courtiers, who inquired to know to whom the empire should devolve upon his death, he said, "to the most worthy."

The contentions which then ensued, must have been clearly foreseen. The consequence to his own family was their total extirpation. The partition of the empire was then agreed on, and carried into execution, not without severe contests with some of their associate commanders.

To Ptolemy were assigned Egypt, Lybia, Arabia, and Palestine; to Cassander, Macedonia and Greece; to Lysimachus, Bythinia and Thrace; and to Selencus, the remaining territories in Asia, as far as the river Indus, which were called the kingdom of Syria. Of these divisions the most powerful were that of Syria, under Seleucus and his descendants, and that of Egypt, under the Ptolemies.

4. *The Defeat of Pyrrhus by the Romans*, happened 274 years B. C. He evacuated Italy; and the reduction of the remaining Italian states by the Romans immediately followed.

In the course of the war which the Romans carried on with the Samnites, the Tarentines, allies of the Samnites, sought the aid of Pyrrhus, king of Epirus, a celebrated general. Landing in Italy with 30,000 men, and a train of elephants, he attacked the Romans.

Success at first attended his operations, but he afterwards met with sad reverses. After a short absence from Italy, in order to assist the Sicilians against the Carthaginians, he returned, and made a last effort against the power of Rome.

He was totally defeated, lost 26,000 men, and returned precipitately to his own dominions. The hostile states submitted to the Romans, and 480 years from the foundation of their city, it became the mistress of all Italy.

5. *The First Punic War*, or, otherwise, the war of the Romans with Carthage, commenced

264 years B. C. It ended, though not in the defeat, yet in the humiliation of the latter. The pretext for it was the assistance which Carthage rendered to the enemies of Rome.

Sicily was the principal scene and object of the war. Its inhabitants seemed to have only the desperate choice of submission either to Rome or Carthage. They chose the former, so that the Romans and Sicilians were arrayed against Carthage.

The first fleet which they ever equipped gained a complete victory over that of the Carthagenians. In the second naval engagement the Romans were also victorious, and they now prepared to invade Africa. Before the gates of Carthage, however, the Romans, under Regulus, were severely repulsed.

Notwithstanding this success, the Carthagenians, being repeatedly defeated in Sicily, became at length really desirous of peace. As the negotiation for this object did not succeed, the war continued a number of years after, during which the Romans took the strongest of the Sicilian towns, and won two naval battles.

Carthage was reduced to the necessity of making peace on the humiliating terms of abandoning to the Romans all her possessions in Sicily, the payment of 3200 talents of silver, and of submitting to some other important sacrifices.

6. *The Second Punic War* commenced 218 years B. C. after 23 years of peace. It was begun on the part of the Carthagenians, who, during the time of peace, had been preparing for revenge. The celebrated Hannibal was their general.

The Carthagenians laid siege to Saguntum, a city of Spain in alliance with the Romans. The young Hannibal, after taking that place, conceived the bold design of carrying the war into Italy. In the accomplishment of that design, he passed the Pyrenees, and finally the Alps, with incredible difficulty, having, when he arrived in Italy, 20,000 foot, and 6000 horse.

The Romans fell before him. In several pitched battles he utterly routed them, and at Cannæ he made an immense slaughter—40,000 Romans being left dead on the field. Had he pushed his advantages, and gone immediately to Rome, the fate of the Republic would no doubt have been sealed.

But he hesitated, and this gave time to the Romans to concentrate their forces, and they in their turn became victorious. Asdrubal was sent into Italy to the aid of his brother Hannibal, but was defeated by the consul Claudius, and slain in battle. Scipio, triumphing in Spain, passed over into Africa, and threatened Carthage itself.

In this situation of affairs, Hannibal was recalled from Italy. But the battle of Zama decided the fate of the war, and the Carthagenians sued for peace. This was obtained only on the most severe conditions.

7. *The Subjugation of Macedonia and Greece by the Romans*, followed not many years after the conclusion of the second Punic war. We may date the termination of the kingdom of Macedon at 167 years B. C. and of the independence of Greece at 21 years after.

The people of Etolia, attacked by the Macedonians, solicited the aid of the Romans, who, in their eagerness to obtain this country, readily complied with their request. The reduction of Macedonia was the consequence. Perseus, its last sovereign, was led captive to Rome.

From that time the conquest of all Greece was no longer a matter of difficulty. By fomenting dissensions between the states, the Romans gained over many of the principal Greeks to their views. They wanted nothing more than a pretext for drawing the sword, and that was easily found in some insult which the deputies of Rome are said to have received from the Achæan states.

With this as the foundation of the quarrel, Metellus marched his legions into Greece, and commenced the work of slaughter. Mummius, the consul, completed it, conquering the whole of Greece, which, from that period, became a Roman province, under the name of Achaia.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD VIII.

1. *Alexander* the Great, conqueror of most of the world known to the ancients.

2. *Plato*, an eminent Grecian philosopher, called the *divine*.

3. *Demosthenes*, the prince of orators.

4. *Aristotle*, the ablest logician and philosopher of antiquity.

5. *Euclid*, the greatest master of mathematical science.

6. *Theocritus*, the father of pastoral poetry.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD VIII.

1. Learning and the fine arts flourished in Greece a considerable period after the spirit of liberty and patriotism was extinct. The curiosity and taste of the Greeks required an object. and they found it in these intellectual and elegant accomplishments.

Under Alexander and his successors, learning made great progress, particularly under the Ptolemies of Egypt. Philological learning flourished chiefly at Alexandria. The mathematics was cultivated by the Platonists; but Euclid was the great master of this science. Archimedes was a celebrated successor of Euclid.

Philosophy, during this period, was carried by Aristotle to a degree of perfection, to which it had never before attained. The various sects in philosophy had their leaders, as, for instance, the Stoics followed Zeno, the Epicureans the philosopher Epicurus, and the Sceptics, Pyrrho.

2. Among the Romans, during the latter part of this period, the dawning of literature appears. Several writers arose, who improved and polished the language, partly by original compositions, and partly by translations from the Greek. Among these were Livius, Andronicus, Plautius, Ennius, Cæcelius, and Terence, all of whom flourished in this period.

The Romans, it is said, had no natural taste in the fine arts. The productions of the masters poured in among

them upon the conquest of Greece, but the excellence of these productions was not at first duly appreciated.

Philosophy made its appearance at Rome, in the latter part of the period under review, viz. in the interval between the war with Perseus and the third Punic war. A few learned Achæans, banished from their country, and arriving in Italy, diffused a taste for literature, and the education of youth.

Fearing foreign manners with foreign studies, the senate banished the Greek philosophers from Rome. But an Athenian embassy arriving soon after, brought thither Carneades and Critolaus, who revived the taste for the Greek philosophy.

3. Libraries, though scarce, were not unknown in these times. Besides the libraries established at Athens by Pisistratus, and at Heraclea by Clearchus, there was a celebrated one at Susa, in Persia.

The library of Alexandria, in Egypt, was however the richest. Previously to its being burnt in the time of Pompey, it contained 400,000 volumes. But some modern libraries much exceed this, particularly in France.

4. The manners and customs of ancient nations, it must be very interesting to know; but we have not that particular information on this subject concerning several nations, which it is desirable to possess. Those of the Greeks, and especially of the Romans, are the best known.

During this period, the Greeks attained to a high degree of polish and refinement, although there was a considerable diversity, in this respect, among the different states. The Athenians led the way in ease and politeness of manners, and in external accomplishments in general.

The severer institutions of Sparta comported less with an attention to exterior graces. The Beotians were proverbially rude and boorish. The domestic habits of the Greeks must have wanted, however, much of the gentleness and humanity which characterize modern civilized nations, inasmuch as women, who are the principal means of infusing a virtuous delicacy and refinement into human manners, were among the Greeks little better than slaves.

The Romans, in the early ages of the republic, were characterized by a spirit of temperance, of frugality, and

probity. The patricians, when in the country, forgot the distinctions of rank, and laboured in the cultivation of their fields, like the meanest plebeians. Presented to us are the examples of Cincinnatus, Curious, the elder Cato, and Scipio Africanus.

The town was visited only on the ninth day, which was the market day. In those times, says one of their historians, good manners were cultivated both in peace and war. But when the Romans had extended their dominion, they imported the taste, manners and vices of the nations which they conquered. A notice of these will be given in some of the succeeding periods.

5. The true religion, during this period, was still professed by the Jews, and for the first part of it, they enjoyed their privileges without much molestation. This was especially the case during the reign of Alexander, who granted to the Jews the freedom of their country, laws, and religion; and exempted them from paying tribute every seventh year.

But with him expired the prosperous state of Judea. It was successively invaded and subdued by the Syrians and Egyptians, and the inhabitants were reduced to bondage. As the Jews refused to fight on the Sabbath, Ptolemy, king of Egypt, taking advantage of this circumstance, entered Jerusalem on the sabbath, and carried away 100,000 captives.

About eighteen years after this event, the sacrifices ceased, and there scarcely existed any external signs of religion, in consequence of another invasion by Antiochus the Great, king of Syria. This persecution roused the Jews to drive the Syrians from Judea, which they gloriously effected under Judas Maccabeus.

PERIOD IX.

THE PERIOD OF THE CIVIL WAR BETWEEN MARIUS AND SYLLA,

EXTENDS FROM THE DESTRUCTION OF

CARTHAGE,



146 years *B. C.* to the time of Julius Cæsar, 80 years *B. C.* The length of this period is 66 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD. IX.

Five principal events are recorded in this period.

First, the Destruction of Carthage:

Second, the Defeat of Jugurtha:

Third, the Mithridatic War:

Fourth, the Civil War between Marius and Sylla:

Fifth, the Dictatorship of Sylla.

The most conspicuous people of this period are the Romans, whose history is interwoven with that of almost every other nation, and whose records are alike interesting and authentic.

1. *The Destruction of Carthage* occurred 146

years B. C. It put an end to the third and last Punic war. The Carthagenians were massacred, and their city burnt to the ground.

An unsuccessful war with the Numidians, had very much reduced the Carthagenians, and the Romans, seizing this opportunity, invaded Africa. The Carthagenians, knowing their utter inability to meet their foe, offered every submission.

The Romans demanded three hundred hostages for the performance of those conditions which the senate should enjoin. The hostages were delivered; but it appearing that the condition required was, that Carthage itself should be razed to its foundation, the miserable inhabitants, in despair, made a determined effort for their safety.

All however was in vain. Carthage was taken by storm, and converted into a pile of ruins, with the extinction of its population.

2. *The Defeat of Jugurtha* was effected by Marius the consul, 108 years B. C. In one of the engagements 90,000 of the Numidian army were slain, and Jugurtha, being betrayed, was delivered into the hands of his enemies, and brought in chains to Rome.

Jugurtha sought to usurp the crown of Numidia, by destroying his cousins, the sons of the last king. The elder brothers he murdered, and the younger, applying for aid to Rome, failed of success, since Jugurtha bribed the senate, who decreed to him the sovereignty of half the kingdom.

Instigated by ambition, he made war upon his cousin, and finally put him to death. Going to Rome, and pleading his own cause, he again, by bribery, secured the favour of the senate. A repetition of his base conduct, however, drew upon him the vengeance of the Romans, and having, by the treachery of his father-in-law, been put into their hands, he graced the triumph of Marius, in chains, and was finally starved in a dungeon.

8. *The Mithridatic War* commenced 89 years B. C. It ended in the defeat of Mithri-

dates by Lucullus, 72 years B.C. In the mean time the sources of those civil feuds which soon distracted Rome, arose.

Mithridates was a very powerful monarch of the East, his dominions extending over several countries. He could bring into the field several hundred thousand men, besides many armed chariots. The Romans were anxious to attack him, and they wanted no other pretext than his having invaded some states that were under the protection of Rome.

Sylla, to the great disappointment of Marius, was appointed to the command of the expedition against Mithridates. Archelaus having been sent by this monarch to oppose Sylla, he was defeated near Athens with the loss of an incredible number of his forces.

After another battle, the Roman general recovered all the countries that had been usurped by Mithridates, so that both parties were now inclined to an accommodation; Mithridates induced by his losses, and Sylla by a desire of taking vengeance on his enemies in Rome.

4. *The Civil War between Marius and Sylla*, commenced 88 years B. C. These men being leaders of the republic, became rivals and enemies, and carried on a most inveterate warfare against each other. It was attended with the most horrible massacres of the citizens.

While Sylla was engaged in the Mithridatic war, Marius, having been previously driven from Rome by Sylla, returning to Italy, and joining his forces to those of Cinna, laid siege to Rome, and compelled the city to absolute submission. After putting to death all whom they considered their enemies, they assumed the consulship. But Marius, in a fit of debauch, died a few days after.

Sylla soon returned to Italy, victorious over his foreign enemy, and, joined by Cethegus and other leaders, gave battle to those Romans who had been opposed to him, and entirely defeated them. A most dreadful massacre and proscription followed, which had for their object the extermination of every one of his enemies in Italy.

5. *The Dictatorship of Sylla* is dated 82 years B. C. He invested himself with this office for an unlimited period; but after a course of capricious tyranny, he voluntarily resigned. From this time, Rome, though nominally a republic for a number of years, never actually recovered its freedom.

Sylla, as perpetual dictator, was without a rival in authority, and absolute master of the government. He amused the people with a show of their former government, but he took care that none but his own creatures should be elected to any office.

Every thing was done as he exacted. The least opposition aroused his vengeance. The people saw nothing before them but the prospect of hopeless slavery. It was at this juncture, however, that, contrary to all expectation, Sylla laid down the dictatorship, having held it not quite three years.

He retired in safety, though not without reproach. Innumerable multitudes had he injured beyond reparation; and it seems strange, after his retirement and defenceless state, that he escaped the effects of public or private resentment. The reason of his abdication cannot be well ascertained. He died soon afterwards of a most loathsome disease.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD IX.

1. *Polybius*, a learned historian, who wrote the history of the Greeks and Romans.
2. *Apollodorus*, a Greek grammarian.
3. *Lucilius*, an early Roman poet.
4. *Sylla*, an able general, eminent for his success and cruelty in war.
5. *John Hyrcanus*, liberator of the Jews, and father of the Asmonean dynasty.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD IX.

1. The state of the Jewish polity and religion, during this period, may be given in few words. The brothers of

Judas Maccabeus, pursuing the course begun by their father and brother, completely established the independence of their country, and changed its republican government to a vigorous and flourishing monarchy.

John Hyrcanus, son of Simon Maccabeus, united in his person the office of high priest and generalissimo of the army, subdued the enemies of his country, and is celebrated for his many valuable qualities. His sons assumed the regal title.

His descendants are distinguished in the history of the Jewish nation by the appellation of the *Asmonean dynasty*, which continued about 126 years. Notwithstanding the present security of the Jews, vital religion was doubtless at a low ebb.

2. During this period, literature and philosophy among the Greeks were greatly on the decline. Some eminent historians, however, then flourished. A taste for the fine arts continued to be cultivated, though few or no master artists arose. The learned men of Greece, after the conquest of their country by the Romans, became the instructors of the latter in these elegant pursuits.

The Romans made some progress in the same during this period, and were evidently preparing for the splendid era which immediately follows. That era shone forth suddenly, and lasted in its perfection, less than a century.

3. In the agricultural art, as well as in the art of war, the Romans were particularly well versed. Their greatest men, after their successes in war, retired to the peaceful occupations of husbandry. This practice, however, was soon laid aside, and successful generals became at length governors of provinces, as will afterwards appear.

To their knowledge of the art of war, and to their exact discipline, as well as to their bravery, we must attribute the success of the Roman arms. From the constant practice of athletic exercises the Romans were inured from infancy to hardiness and fatigue, and bred to that species of life which a soldier leads in actual warfare.

The levies were made every year by the tribes called out, and divided into their respective number of centuries, each century presenting by rotation as many soldiers as there were legions to be raised. The number of

the soldiers in the legion was various at different periods. It was from 3000 to 10,000 and 11,000.

The Roman tactics are supposed to have been at their highest pitch of excellence during the Punic wars. Hannibal was a master of the science of tactics. From him the Romans acquired important information, in view of his practice.

The naval military art was far less perfect in these than in modern times. Their gallees consisted of one or more banks of oars. The combatants assailed at a distance with javelins, missile combustibles, &c. The serious attack was made in boarding, in which event the vessels were grappled by means of a crane let down from the prow.

4. During so short a period, the character and manners of a people do not in general materially alter: yet those of the Romans underwent a material change. From the time of the destruction of Carthage, virtue and freedom began to sink among this people.

An historian of their own assigns the cause: "Before the destruction of Carthage, the fear of their enemy kept the people in the practice of virtue: but when the restraint of fear ceased to influence their conduct, they abandoned themselves to profligacy and arrogance, the usual concomitants of prosperity."

Avarice and ambition now began to be the chief motives of the Roman conquests; and the nations of the east and south, sunk in luxury, or wasted with contention, became an easy prey to a people who were destined from the beginning to be the masters of the world.

PERIOD X.**THE PERIOD OF ROMAN LITERATURE,**

EXTENDS FROM THE FIRST CAMPAIGN OF

JULIUS CÆSAR,

80 years *B. C.* to the Nativity of Jesus Christ, or the commencement of the Christian era.—
This period embraces 80 years.

Jesus Christ is supposed to have been born four years before the commencement of the vulgar era. The 10th period therefore comes down to the year 4 of the Christian era.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD X.

This period includes seven principal events.

First, the Taking of Jerusalem by Pompey :

Second, the Banishment of Cicero from Rome :

Third, the Invasion of Britain by Cæsar :

Fourth, the Battle of Pharsalia :

Fifth, the Assassination of Cæsar :

Sixth, the Battle of Philippi :

Seventh, the Battle of Actium, and the end of the Roman Commonwealth.

During the latter part of this period, Rome passed from a republic to a despotism, and rapidly multiplying its conquests, it held the fairest portion of the civilized world under its sway. The records of this period, therefore, are peculiarly Roman, embracing however the annals of the surrounding nations.

1. *The Taking of Jerusalem by Pompey*, happened 63 years B. C. This event was connected with the restoration of Hyrcanus to the government of Judea, and the subjection of that country to the Romans.

After the termination of the civil war between Marius and Sylla, and of the Mithridatic war, Pompey and Cæsar began to figure on the stage of the Roman world. Other eminent men, it will be seen, were associated with them.

Pompey being chosen consul, was engaged in wars on account of the republic. After conquering various countries, he turned towards Judea, and laid siege to Jerusalem. This venerable place, which had been so often besieged and taken, being naturally strong from its position, sustained the siege for some time, but was at last captured, and 1200 of its defenders slain.

After restoring Hyrcanus to the government, he took Aristobolus, who had usurped it, to grace his triumph upon his return. This triumph, which lasted two days, is said to have been the most splendid that ever entered the gates of Rome. The names of no less than fifteen conquered kingdoms were exposed. Judea from this time became tributary to Rome.

2. *The Banishment of Cicero from Rome*, was accomplished by the partizans of Cæsar, who dreaded Cicero's abilities. The pretence of it was the illegality of certain measures pursued in suppressing Cataline's conspiracy. It is dated 58 years B. C.

Cicero, the greatest man perhaps of all the Romans, had been the instrument of saving his country, by disclosing and defeating the execrable conspiracy of Cataline.

The highest honours had been accorded to him on account of his agency in this concern.

Soon, however, Clodius the Tribune, instigated by Cæsar, procured Cicero's banishment into Greece. He bore it with the greatest impatience. Pompey had abandoned him; but in the wane of that general's reputation, he became desirous to prop himself by the abilities of Cicero.

He accordingly interested himself in procuring his recall from exile, and Cicero returned in high honour after an absence of sixteen months. The death of Crassus, one of the Triumvirate, soon after left Cæsar and Pompey with the Roman world before them as the prize of ambition; while Cicero endeavoured in vain to sustain the falling liberties of his country.

3. *The Invasion of Britain by Cæsar*, occurred 55 years B. C. Having obtained several advantages over the natives, he withdrew to Gaul on the approach of winter. The next summer he returned, and reduced a considerable portion of the Island under the Roman dominion.

It was not until Cæsar had conquered the whole of Gaul, that he turned his arms towards Britain. The inhabitants of the island at that time were savages, and wholly unacquainted with the arts of civilized life. They were, however, brave and warlike.

Landing at Deal, Cæsar attacked them, but he was opposed with equal zeal and courage. The disciplined legions of Rome were, however, more than a match for the irregular skill and bravery of these savages. He bound the Britons to submission during his absence to Gaul.

After a winter's residence there, he returned; and, adding one victory after another, he so prostrated the British strength, that most of the island fell under the Roman sway. But the pressure of affairs in Italy induced Cæsar's speedy return to Rome.

The Battle of Pharsalia, was gained by Cæsar over the forces of Pompey and of the republic. It took place 48 years B. C. Pompey soon

after miserably perished, and Cæsar acquired an accession both of popularity and power.

Cæsar, in his attempt to deprive Pompey of his government, was opposed by force of arms. The consuls and a great part of the senate were the friends of Pompey. On the side of Cæsar were a victorious army and the body of the Roman citizens, whom he had brought over by his liberality.

Passing the Rubicon, Cæsar entered Rome before Pompey had time to collect an army, who, with many of the senate, immediately left Rome. Having there possessed himself of supreme authority, he marched directly to attack Pompey's lieutenants who were in Spain. Having subdued these, and being in the mean time appointed dictator, and soon after consul, he had the right of acting in the name of the republic.

By this time Pompey had raised a numerous army, and Cæsar, anxious to bring him to an engagement, met him in the field of Pharsalia, and entirely defeated him. Of Pompey's army 15000 were slain, and 24000 surrendered themselves prisoners.

Pompey's end was most miserable. Fleeing into Egypt, he was basely taken by Ptolemy and murdered. He was stabbed in the sight of his wife, and after his head was severed from his body, the latter was thrown naked on the sand. By this deed Ptolemy hoped to conciliate the favor of Cæsar.

5. *The Assassination of Cæsar* took place in the senate house 44 years B. C. As he had trampled on the liberties of his country, a body of the senators, 60 in number, entered into a conspiracy to deprive him of life. He fell pierced with many wounds.

Cæsar having subdued the remains of Pompey's party, in whose interest Cato and Scipio were engaged, began to turn his attention towards the improvement of his country. Ambitious as he was, he manifested considerable moderation and clemency. His person was at length declared to be sacred, and the title of *imperator* was given him.

The lovers of liberty were however dissatisfied. Banding together with Brutus and Cassius at their head, they formed the design of freeing Rome of its master. On the Ides of March, taking his seat in the senate-house, he was suddenly assailed by the conspirators.

He warded off their daggers for some time, till, seeing Brutus, whom he had greatly loved and befriended, he faintly exclaimed, "And you, too, my son!" Then covering his face with his robe, he resigned himself to his fate.

6. *The Battle of Philippi* was fought 42 years B. C. It was gained by Octavius Cæsar and Antony over the forces of the conspirators against Julius Cæsar, headed by Brutus and Cassius. This decided the fate of the empire.

Octavius, Antony and Lepidus, had formed a triumvirate for their mutual benefit, though the two former were rivals, and alike desirous of supreme authority. To gratify each other's wishes, each consented to sacrifice some of the best of his friends to the vengeance of his associate.

In this way the great Cicero was given up by Octavius to the resentment of Antony. In this manner three hundred senators and three thousand knights were put to death. Octavius, being grand nephew of Julius Cæsar, and his adopted heir, though destitute of military talents, had gained the senate to his interest, and divided with Antony the favour of the people.

As soon as the conspirators were overtaken, Octavius and Antony gave them battle. This happened at Philippi, in Thrace, and Antony obtained the victory. Brutus and Cassius escaped the vengeance of their enemy, by a voluntary death.

7. *The Battle of Actium, and the end of the Roman Commonwealth*, took place 31 years B. C. The battle was fought between the naval forces of Octavius, and those of Antony, in which the former was victorious. Octavius became the sole master of the Roman world.

Antony had excited the indignation of the Roman people, on account of his profligacy, and expenditure of the

public resources. And having divorced Octavia, his wife, who was sister to Octavius, war between them became inevitable. The object at stake was the empire.

An immense armament chiefly naval (the land force being merely spectators) came to an engagement near Actium on the coast of Epirus. The conflict was decisive. Cleopatra, the Egyptian queen, to whom Antony was infamously attached, deserted him with her galleys, in the midst of the engagement.

Such was his infatuation that he immediately followed her, leaving his fleet, which, after a contest of some hours, yielded to the squadron of Octavius. Antony and Cleopatra perished miserably, while Octavius was now left without a rival, with the government of Rome in his hands. Egypt which had existed a kingdom from immemorial ages, from this time became a province of Rome.

The empire had now become the largest which the world had ever seen; and Octavius, now named Augustus, holding the principal offices of the state, became the absolute master of the lives and fortunes of the Roman people. During a long administration he almost obliterated the memory of his former cruelties, and seemed to consult only the good of his subjects.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD X.

1. *Lucretius*, a Roman didactic poet.
2. *Julius Cæsar*, a successful warrior, and elegant writer.
3. *Cicero*, the prince of Roman orators and philosophers.
4. *Varro*, the most learned of the Romans.
5. *Virgil*, the prince of Roman poets.
6. *Horace*, the greatest of the Roman lyric poets.
7. *Sallust*, the first philosophical Roman historian.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD X.

1. The human mind made a wonderful advance during this period, for although in a great measure, the glory had departed from Greece, it shone in all its brightness

on Rome. The Augustan age of Roman literature has probably never been exceeded. In philosophy and polite learning the names of Cicero, Virgil and Horace will never be forgotten.

To the Greeks, in the era of their literature, must be ascribed the praise of originality and invention; but the Romans were successful imitators, and in some instances must be said to have improved upon their models. Philosophy and the various kinds of poetry, history and fine writing were cultivated with great success.

The cultivation of physics, or natural philosophy, seems to have been but little attended to by the Romans, or by the Greeks before them. We know of no Roman authors of this period who seem to have bestowed much attention on *nature*, but Varro. Except a few fragments, his works have perished.

2. Many of the useful arts had long been understood by the Asiatic nations, and some of those arts were understood in great perfection. These nations attracted but little attention at this time except through the medium of the Romans. Their wealth tempted the masters of the world to attack them, and their luxury, profligacy and supineness, made them, in general, an easy prey.

Among the most distant nations of the east, even the Chinese, many of the arts of life were duly cultivated. Concerning that people in particular, we know little except the fact, that they had a regular government under different dynasties, and that they were partly civilized, and together with an acquaintance with several useful arts, they were not strangers to certain sciences, particularly astronomy.

In the art of war, however, the Romans exceeded all the nations of antiquity. We have not time to give any account of it here, only we would remark that Julius Cæsar in particular was a great adept in it. The art of *intrenchment* he carried to perfection. Many important arts with which we are acquainted, were however unknown to the ancients.

3. The system of education among the Romans was excellent. The utmost attention was bestowed in the early formation of the mind and character. The Roman matrons themselves nursed their children. Next to the

care bestowed upon their morals, a remarkable degree of attention seems to have been given to the language of children.

The attainment of a pure and correct expression was a great object. The honours of the state were the prize of eloquence. The politeness which characterized the Romans shewed itself particularly in their speech and gesture.

4. The manners and customs of antiquity were, in many respects, different from those which now prevail. In the Bible we may perceive frequent allusions to habits and practices which appear very strange to us. During the period now under review, the Roman manners were well established. Their national character had fully developed itself.

The day was spent at Rome briefly as follows :—The morning was passed in visiting the temples, or in attending the levees of the great. The clients waited on their patrons, and the patricians visited one another. From the levee they proceeded to the forum, either for business or pleasure.

When the hour of dinner arrived, which was at noon, they partook of a very slight repast. After dinner the youth repaired to the Campus Martius, where they were engaged in athletic exercises and sports till sunset. The elder class engaged in repose, literary conversation, theatrical amusement, or the shows of the circus and amphitheatre, according to their respective tastes and inclinations.

After these occupations it was customary to go to the baths. From these they went immediately to supper, which was their principal meal, and far exceeded modern luxury in eating and drinking. Cookery became a science: and the number and costliness of their dishes were scarcely credible. At table it was their practice to recline on couches.

5. The morality of nations is apt to decline with the increase of their wealth. This was eminently the case with the Romans. They became, at length, when their poverty and freedom had departed, a most vicious and abandoned people.

Among the Jews, the true religion had, for a long time,

run low. But it was at the extremest point of its degradation, immediately previous to the coming of our Saviour into the world.

By the favor of the Romans, the Jewish monarchy had been re-established. Herod the great was placed on the throne of David. This prince rebuilt the temple in a very magnificent manner. His reign was splendid, but was stained with almost every crime. At this time an event took place, than which none more important in its nature and consequences, was ever recorded in the history of religion, or of the world, viz. **THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST.**

MODERN CHRONOLOGY

extends from the Nativity of Jesus Christ to the present time.

This portion of Chronology may be divided also into Ten Periods.

GENERAL DIVISION.

PERIOD I. will extend from the Nativity of Jesus Christ to the Reign of Constantine the Great, 306 years A. C. This is the period of the *Ten Persecutions of Christians.*

PERIOD II. will extend from the Reign of Constantine, 306 years A. C. to the Extinction of the Western Empire, 476 years A. C. This is the period of the *Northern Invasions.*

PERIOD III. will extend from the Extinction of the Western Empire, 476 years A. C. to the Flight of Mahomet, 622 years A. C. This is the period of the *Justinian Code, and of the Wars of Belisarius.*

PERIOD IV. will extend from the Flight of Mahomet, 622 years A. C. to the crowning of Charlemagne at Rome, 800 years A. C. This is the period of the *Establishment of the Saracen Dominion.*

PERIOD V. will extend from the Crowning of Charlemagne at Rome, 800 years A. C. to the First Crusade, 1095 years A. C. This is the period of the *New Western Empire*.

PERIOD VI. will extend from the First Crusade, 1095 years A. C. to the Founding of the Turkish Empire, 1299 years A. C. This is the period of the *Crusades*.

PERIOD VII. will extend from the Founding of the Turkish Empire, 1299 years A. C. to the Taking of Constantinople, 1453 years A. C. This is the period of the *Papal Schism*.

PERIOD VIII. will extend from the Taking of Constantinople, 1453 years A. C. to the Edict of Nantes, 1598 years A. C. This is the period of the *Reformation*.

PERIOD IX. will extend from the Edict of Nantes, 1598 years A. C. to the death of Charles 12th of Sweden, 1718 years A. C. This is the period of the *English Commonwealth*.

PERIOD X. will extend from the Death of Charles 12th, of Sweden, 1718 years A. C. to the final Restoration of the Bourbons, 1815, A. C. This is the period of the *American and French Revolution*.

PERIOD I.**THE PERIOD OF THE TEN PERSECUTIONS OF CHRISTIANS,**

EXTENDS FROM THE NATIVITY OF

JESUS CHRIST,

to the Reign of Constantine the Great, 306 years A. C. The length of this period is 306 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD I.

We may notice six principal events in this period :

First, the Birth of Jesus Christ :

Second, the Commencement of the Persecution of the Christian Church .

Third, the Destruction of Jerusalem by Titus :

Fourth, the Victories of Trajan in Dacia and the East :

Fifth, the Defeat of the Persians by Alexander Severus :

Sixth, the Partition of the Roman Empire by Diocletian.

Modern chronology, in its application to history, is much more clear and definite than most portions of ancient chronology, particularly its earlier portions, and those that relate to nations which were but little known. Ecclesiastical and civil records furnish us with abundant and authentic materials.

1. *The Birth of Jesus Christ*, may be dated, according to the best authorities, 748 years from the founding of Rome, and 4 years before the common date of the Christian era. He was "God manifest in the flesh," and came into the world to make expiation for sin. He was crucified in the 33d year of his reign, and 3d of his divine ministry.

The particulars of the life of Jesus Christ, of his doctrine, of the effects of his ministry and death, of the labors of his apostles, and the system of religion which they taught under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, are given in the several books constituting the New Testament.

To this record, we refer for information on these important topics, since they can not here be detailed. The reader need not, perhaps, be told, that they are the most interesting and momentous of all human narratives.—Their veracity and authenticity are not, at this day, to be questioned.

The effects of the Saviour's appearance in the world, were, from the beginning, decisive. Considering the hostile inclinations of man, his religion, under the ministry of the apostles, spread with great rapidity. Reformation of moral character was its aim, object, and result. Its effects ever have been great, and such they will be to the end of time.

The appearance of Jesus Christ on earth, has had an influence on all subsequent history among civilized nations. It is the great era from which we reckon events,

It has altered the aspect of all human affairs, and will alter them more and more, as his religion becomes more prevalent. In many events to be noticed in this part of our work, we shall perceive the relation between them and this cardinal, all-important occurrence.

2. *The Commencement of the Persecution of the Christian Church*, took place under Nero, 64 years A. C. This persecution was repeated in ten successive instances, under the Roman emperors that followed, down to the time of Constantine, thus continuing more than two centuries. The sufferings and loss of life, which were the consequence, exceed calculation.

The emperors under whose reigns this persecution was raised and carried on, were Nero, Domitian, Trajan, Antoninus, Severus, Maximinus, Decius, Valerian, Aurelian, and Diocletian. After Rome became an empire under Augustus, its sovereigns were, for the most part, monsters of vice and cruelty.

As some of the persecuting emperors were esteemed virtuous men, it must be attributed, partly to the spirit of the times, partly to the form of the Roman government, but chiefly to the opposition of the human heart to the religion of Jesus Christ, that such dreadful persecutions were waged against the christians.

The sufferings of the christians, the capricious tortures they endured, and the various forms of death which they underwent, need not here be described. Under the second persecution, 40,000 were supposed to have suffered martyrdom. The seventh persecution under Decius, is said to have been the most dreadful ever known.

Christians were in all places driven from their habitations, stripped of their estates, tormented with racks, fire, &c. In the last persecution, which continued ten years, the amount of suffering was immense—the loss of life almost incredible. In Egypt alone, no less than 144,000 christians died by the violence of their persecutors, besides 700,000 that died through the fatigues of banishment, &c.

3. *The destruction of Jerusalem by Titus*, occasioned the extinction of the Jews as a nation,

and their dispersion throughout the earth. It happened 70 years A. Christ, who had repeatedly predicted the event. Nearly 1,500,000 Jews perished on this awful occasion.

The Jews, for some time, had been governed by Herod, as viceroy under Augustus. Archelaus, Herod's son, was banished on account of his tyranny; and Judea, from that period, was in the ordinary condition of a Roman province.

As the Jews rebelled on every slight occasion, Vespasian was sent by Nero to reduce them to order, but being soon re-called to assume the government of the empire, Titus his son was left to prosecute the expedition. Willing to spare the city, he made many efforts to persuade the Jews to surrender: but he did not succeed.

With a spirit of singular infatuation, they rushed on their own ruin. After a blockade of six months, Jerusalem was taken by storm, the temple reduced to ashes, and the city buried in ruins. This miserable people, who had crucified the Lord of glory, received the punishment due to their crimes. Innumerable butcheries were made by the Roman sword, and by their own, upon themselves.

From this time the nation was no more. Many of them left Judea forever. These sunk into the greatest degradation. Vespasian ordered all the Jewish lands to be sold for his own use, and imposed a tribute of half a shekel on all the Jews within his empire.

4. *The Victories of Trajan in Dacia and the East*, greatly enlarged the boundaries of the Roman Empire; but they were not permanently useful. The conquered countries soon reappeared in arms. Trajan commenced his victorious course 102 years A. C.

The Dacians, claiming a tribute from the Roman people, Trajan suddenly appeared in arms on the frontiers, and awed them at once into a treaty of peace. As, however, this was soon after violated, he entered the hostile country, obtained a complete victory, though with a prodigious slaughter of his troops, and Dacia became a Roman province.

The emperor then turned his arms eastward, and speedily reduced Mesopotamia, Chaldea, Assyria ; and took Ctesiphon, the capital of the Parthian empire. Still pursuing his conquests in the East, he subdued nations till then unknown, and it is reported, that arriving at the confines of India, “ he lamented, with a sigh, that his advanced age scarcely left him any hopes of equalling the renown of the son of Philip.”

5. *The Defeat of the Persians by Alexander Severus*, occurred in a decisive engagement which he had with that people. The Roman empire, by this defeat of the Persians, was restored to its former limits. It is dated 226 years A. C.

In the interval between Trajan and Alexander Severus, some of the conquered provinces of the Empire threw off the yoke. Persia was one of them. The efforts of Alexander, who was a soldier, brought many of them again within the pale of the empire.

But such was the corruption of the times, it became impossible that so mighty a structure as the Roman Empire could be preserved entire. At the period of Trajan's death, it comprehended the greater part of Britain, all Spain, France, the Netherlands, Italy, part of Germany, Egypt, Barbary, Bildulgerid, Turkey in Europe and in Asia, and Persia.

Alexander stayed the progress of its decay, only in appearance. His slaughter of the Persians, in a single engagement, was immense, and the cities of Ctesiphon and Babylon were once more taken. The empire, however, was exhausted by this exertion of its remaining strength, and it became but little more than a splendid ruin.

6. *The Partition of the Roman empire by Diocletian*, is dated 292 years A. C. He divided it into four governments, under as many princes, two of them being emperors, each called Augustus, and two Cæsars. Thus a new

system of administration was formed, though it did not long continue.

Maximian shared with Diocletian the title of Augustus; and Galerius and Constantius were declared Cæsars. All were nominally supreme, though in reality directed by Diocletian. The measure was doubtless unwise, since its efficacy depended on the ability of an individual.

Diocletian and Maximian, in pursuance of their plan, retired from the sovereignty, and left the government in the hands of the Cæsars. But Constantius dying soon after, and his son Constantine being proclaimed emperor, though Galerius did not acknowledge him, Maximian resumed again the purple.

On the death of Maximian and Galerius, Constantine had no other competitor than Maxentius, the son of the former, and the contest between them was decided by the sword. Maxentius perished, and Constantine remained sole master of the empire.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD I.

1. *Livy*, the prince of Roman historians.
2. *Seneca*, a Roman moralist and philosopher.
3. *Pliny 2d*, the earliest writer on Natural History, whose works are extant.
4. *Tacitus*, an eminent philosophic historian.
5. *Plutarch*, the principal biographer of antiquity.

6. *Quintilian*, an eminent Greek critic.

7. *Origen* and } learned christian writers,

8. *Cyprian*, } commonly called *fathers*.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD I.

1. At the commencement of this period, sprang up the Christian Religion, which was grafted on Judaism, and derived from the same divine source. By the divine appointment, Judaism was superseded by Christianity, as types and shadows were no longer of any use, after the substance was come.

From the time of our Saviour's ascension, his religion began to make its way among the nations. The labors

and sufferings of the apostles, and other early christian teachers, were almost incredible, in accomplishing this object. It prevailed, notwithstanding the prejudices and lusts of the human heart.

The opposition which the Christian religion met with, never hindered its progress. The awful persecutions which were raised against the christians, were the means of exciting the attention of mankind to the subject of their religion. Notwithstanding all the attempts to put it down, it finally prevailed throughout the Roman empire, and reached, at last, the throne of the Cæsars.

It is not to be concealed, however, that many false notions, foreign to the pure gospel, became incorporated with it. Primitive Christianity, before the conclusion of this period, was considerably corrupted by the Pagan philosophy, thus giving rise to the sects of the Gnostics and Ammonians, and the Platonising christians.

In the third century it was exposed, in addition to the fires of persecution, to the attacks of infidel philosophers, as Porphyry, Philostratus, &c, but was ably defended by Origen, Dionysius, and Cyprian.

2. Succeeding the Augustan age, there were many men of superior erudition and intellectual powers; but whatever pertains to polite and elegant literature, began to decay. A pompous, affected, and false style of writing, chiefly prevailed. No works so finished as those of Virgil and Horace were produced after the Augustan age, though there were some writers, perhaps of superior genius, to those of that renowned age.

Yet the princes who succeeded Augustus were friends of literature, and were somewhat learned themselves.—But they were despots. Genius being indulged at the risk of life, (for no offence could be safely given to the throne) was cramped within narrow bounds. Eloquence was abandoned to pedants. Sophists occupied the chair of philosophy.

Until the destruction of Jerusalem, the Jews had schools in Judea, particularly at Bethhoron, Jerunia, and Tiberias. In the schools of Egypt, the chief of which was Alexandria, were taught the Greek philosophy, mathematics, jurisprudence, medicine, magic and astrology.

In Greece, the schools of Athens still flourished, and at Rome and in Italy they were first endowed from the pub-

lic treasury by Vespasian. The principal school, next to that of Rome, was at Milan.

3. The population of the Roman empire, during this period, was exceedingly large. It has been computed to be no less than 120,000,000, one half of whom were slaves. The capital alone contained more than 6,000,000 of inhabitants.

Innumerable, also, were the hordes of barbarians to the north and north east, by whom the Roman empire was at length overpowered. Their numbers seemed not to be at all exhausted, notwithstanding the immense slaughter which was made of them by long-continued wars.

On the whole, though many of the arts of life were then undiscovered, and the moderns have many conveniences which the ancients had not, this period, especially the former part of it, in population, splendor, and power, stands conspicuous on the records of the world.

During the latter part of this period, however, the magnificent structure of the Roman empire was ready to fall into ruin, and long ages of darkness, ignorance, and imbecility, were approaching.

4. Except the barbarous nations by which the empire was surrounded, and except India and China, of which we hear little during this period, but one form of government prevailed; and that was the government of imperial Rome. For she held, under her sway, all the civilized world, which was at that time known. Some of the forms of free institutions were observed in the empire, but they were *merely* forms. The emperor was master of the lives and fortunes of his subjects.

In room of the ancient republican institutions, which were founded chiefly on personal merit, a rigid subordination of dignities now went through all the orders of the state. The magistrates were divided into three classes, distinguished by the titles of 1, the illustrious; 2, the respectable; 3, the *clarissimi*.

These titles, however, were without meaning, and merely matters of parade; and the state of society was an almost constant interchange of oppression on the part of the great, and of servility on the part of the poor.

PERIOD II.**THE PERIOD OF THE NORTHERN
INVASIONS,**

EXTENDS FROM THE REIGN OF

CONSTANTINE THE GREAT,

306 years A. C. to the Extinction of the Western Empire, 476 years A. C. The length of this period is 170 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD II.

Six principal events are comprised within this period :

First, the Toleration of Christianity through the Roman Empire :

Second, the Removal of the Seat of the Roman Empire to Constantinople :

Third, the Sack and Burning of Rome by Alaric :

Fourth, the Commencement of the kingdom of the Vandals in Africa :

Fifth, the Ravages of Attila, the Hun, in the Roman Empire :

Sixth, the Arrival of the Saxons in Britain.

The Roman Empire, which comprises the history of the whole civilized world, during this period, as also during the last, excites a strong interest in connexion with Christianity. Both civil and ecclesiastical records, notwithstanding the decay of genius. are abundant.

1. *The Toleration of Christianity, through the Roman Empire*, took place under Constantine the Great, 306 years A. C. The public persecutions of the Christians then ceased ; and, though some of the succeeding emperors were hostile to the cause, it completely triumphed over Paganism under Theodosius, about 80 years after its first toleration by Constantine.

As Constantine fought under the banner of the cross against his enemies, and was successful, he felt disposed to express his gratitude to the divine Author of the christian faith. He soon issued edicts, declaring that the christians should be eased of all their grievances, and received into places of trust and authority.

Thus, the religion of the Saviour, which had stood the ordeal of ten persecutions, was seen at once to prevail over the whole Roman Empire. In a few years Constantine established it on a solid basis. He commanded, that in all the provinces, the orders of bishops should be exactly obeyed ; a privilege of which they afterwards made a bad use.

He assembled also a general council of these fathers at Nice, in order to repress the heresies, that had already crept into the church, particularly that of Arius. The tenets of the heresiarch were condemned, and he and his associates were banished into a remote part of the empire.

In the time of Theodosius, 384 A. C. the cause of Christianity and Paganism was solemnly debated between Ambrose, the champion of the former, and Symmachus, the defender of the latter. Christianity was triumphant, and the senate issued a decree for the abolition of paganism, the downfall of which, in the capital, was soon followed by its extinction throughout the empire.

2. *The Removal of the Seat of the Roman Empire, to Constantinople*, was effected by Constantine, 329 years A. C. It was a measure, which hastened the downfall of the empire. The ancient name of Constantinople was Byzantium.

Whatever were Constantine's motives in removing the seat of the empire, the step was highly impolitic. It weakened, exceedingly, the already tottering empire. The latter, after this event, never resumed any share of its former lustre.

The new seat of empire seems to have been designated in the following manner:—Constantine had made choice of a situation at Chalcedon, in Asia Minor, but we are told that in laying out the ground-plan, an eagle caught up the line, and flew with it over to Byzantium, a city which lay upon the opposite side of the Bosphorus.

Here, therefore, it was thought best to fix the seat of empire; and Constantine, after having built a capitol, an amphitheatre, many churches and other public works, and many magnificent edifices, and after having dedicated the city to the God of martyrs, repaired thither with his whole court.

The effect of this measure was not immediately felt. The first sensation was not so great as might have been expected. But in a few years, and especially after the government was apportioned among the emperor's sons, there was such a division of the forces of the empire, that the northern barbarians, who fought with superior numbers, and were often defeated, began now to prevail.

3. *The Sack and Burning of Rome, by Alaric*, happened 410 years A. C. The pillage lasted six days, and multitudes of its inhabitants

were massacred. For more than 600 years, Rome had not been violated by the presence of a foreign enemy, and for more than 1000 years it had stretched the arm of its power over the nations.

The Northern nations, consisting of various tribes in Germany, Sythia, and other regions to the North and East, commonly called Goths, Huns, Vandals, &c. had, for a considerable length of time previously, made frequent attacks upon the borders of the empire; but they were generally repulsed.

Their numbers, however, seemed inexhaustible, and they were poured like a torrent upon the enfeebled and distracted empire. Alaric, a Goth, afterwards styled king of the Visigoths, was the first who laid siege to Rome, which he reduced to the most dreadful extremity. In a moment of despair, the Salarian gate was opened at midnight, by some of the Romans themselves, and the mistress of the world was abandoned to the licentious fury of the tribes of Germany and Sythia.

Notwithstanding the orders given by Alaric, that none but the armed should be killed, vast multitudes of the citizens were put to death, and probably more were reduced from affluence to the miserable condition of captives and exiles.

4. *The commencement of the Kingdom of the Vandals in Africa* is dated 439 years A. C. Genseric, king of the Vandals, by invitation from Boniface, a Roman general, came to the assistance of the latter. The compact between them was, that they should divide Africa between them. The Vandal, however, treacherously seized the whole, but the kingdom which he founded, lasted not quite a century.

The Vandals had previously invaded France, Italy and Spain, and had, indeed, settled in the latter country.—Boniface, in maintaining the arms of the empire against the usurper John, was induced to send for Genseric from

Spain to aid him. The measure, however, was ruinous to his cause.

The Vandal, having thus obtained a footing in Africa, which he greatly desired, could not be prevailed on afterwards, by the offer of great sums of money, to retreat. He had occupied the whole country except three cities, and these he soon took.

Shutting up Boniface in Carthage, he compelled him, at the expiration of a year, to surrender; and the Roman general had the mortification of beholding all Africa, which he had once saved, ravaged in the most cruel manner, by the barbarians whom he had invited thither.

5. *The Ravages of Attila, the Hun, in the Roman Empire*, commenced 445 years A. C. He overran Illyrium, Thrace, Dacia and Moesia, and at that time laid the Romans under tribute. Soon afterwards, with an army of 500,000 men, he threatened the destruction of the Empire. He was, however, ably opposed by Aetius, general of Valentinian III.

While the Vandals under Genseric were trampling on the Roman province of Africa, and at length took and plundered Rome itself, the Huns were advancing upon the empire from the East. This people are supposed to have originated from the eastern part of Asia.

Extending their conquests from the borders of China to the Baltic sea, they impelled the Goths upon the empire, and soon followed in the same track. Their march was extremely desolating. To their leader Attila, the victims of his ambition have given the expressive appellation of "The scourge of God."

The emperor Theodosius, after an attempt to murder Attila, ingloriously submitted to pay him an annual tribute of gold. The barbarian general, appearing again with an immense force, attempted to prostrate, at once, the decaying empire.

Valentinian III., emperor of the West, sent Aetius to oppose him. This general met with some success. But the emperor, shut up in Rome by the arms of the barbarian,

was at length compelled to purchase a peace. Attila suddenly expired in the midst of his successes.

6. *The Arrival of the Saxons in Britain*, was connected with the reduction of the southern part of that island under the Saxon power. They landed under the command of Hengist and Horsa, 451 years A. C., and having assisted the Britons in repelling the Picts and Scots, they turned their arms against the Britons themselves.

The Romans had finally relinquished Britain. This circumstance, while it restored the inhabitants to their liberty, exposed the South Britons to the encroachments of their northern neighbors. In order to free themselves from this evil, they solicited the Saxons for succour and protection.

The latter gladly availed themselves of the opportunity to visit a country long known to them, in their piratical voyages to its coasts. Only sixteen hundred warriors accompanied Hengist and Horsa; but with this force, in conjunction with the South Britons, they compelled the Scots to retire to their mountains.

This object being accomplished, the Saxon adventurers meditated the entire reduction of the Britons, and received, for this purpose, large reinforcements from their countrymen. The struggle was long and severe, but it resulted in the triumph of the Saxons. Under them, seven distinct provinces became as many kingdoms, governed, for several ages, by their respective sovereigns.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD II.

1. *Lactantius*, an elegant writer and able defender of Christianity: sometimes called the *Christian Cicero*.
2. *Ossian*, a Caledonian bard.
3. *Eusebius*, the father of Ecclesiastical history.
4. *Julian*, emperor of Rome, an acute, but malignant infidel philosopher.

5. *Claudian*, an elegant Latin poet.
6. *St. Chrysostom* and } learned and eloquent
7. *St. Augustine*, } fathers in the church.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD II.

1. The Christian Religion, during this period, was externally advanced, but internally corrupted. It had, however, many able and pious apologists. Besides Lactantius, Chrysostom, and Augustine, the pens of Athanasius, Basil, the Gregories, Jerome, Cyril and others were employed, either in the defence or illustration of the doctrines of Christianity.

Heresy greatly infested the Church. Arius and Pelagius introduced their pestilent opinions, and, though those opinions were promptly condemned by the orthodox, they were the occasion of animosity and contention in the church, for many ages. From the Arians sprang the sects of Eunomians, Semiarians, Eusebians, &c. Augustine particularly distinguished himself by his refutation of the opinions of Pelagius.

The attacks of infidel philosophy against Christianity, were continued during this period; more especially was the Emperor Julian engaged in this nefarious undertaking. His peculiar powers of ridicule were employed against the sacred cause, in addition to all his weight and authority as an emperor. He became the author of much mischief. His cavils were answered by Cyril, patriarch of Alexandria.

The system of penances, religious sequestration and monachism, arose during this period. Constantine, having put an end to the persecution of christians, many conceived it a duty to procure for themselves voluntary sufferings. They retired into caves and hermitages, and there practised the most rigorous mortifications of the flesh, by fasting, scourging, vigils, &c.

This madness first showed itself in Egypt, a country fruitful in superstitions. In the time of Theodosius, in the fourth century, these devotees began to form communities, each associate binding himself, by oath, to observe the rules of his order.

Images were introduced into churches about this era, but not directly for the purpose of worship. They were

used as aids to devotion, but even under this form met with a strenuous opposition from the pious. The practice was first observed in Spain.

2. Learning, taste, and genius, had greatly declined. Very few writers of this period observed the perfect models of the Augustan age, and none equalled them. A few poets, as Claudian and Prudentius, wrote elegant verses; but they exhibited no commanding genius, and depicted no powerful passions. If the noble poems ascribed to Ossian, a rude Caledonian, are really his, (which, however, we may reasonably doubt,) he must be considered as the first of the poets of this period.

A few philologists, philosophers, and historians appeared, but no names are peculiarly distinguished. We read of some great names, as connected with the defence of religion, though the style of writing prevalent at that time, and especially among that class of authors, was faulty.—The ancient classic taste and manners were just disappearing, if they had not quite disappeared.

3. The numerous Northern tribes, which overwhelmed the Roman empire, were originally involved in ignorance and barbarism. The Goths, however, were no longer idolaters, but christians, when they settled in the southern provinces of Europe. They were respectable, also, in their morals.

In their native wilds, they, doubtless, together with their successors, were among the most ignorant and savage of mankind. Their institutions were peculiar, and indicated a people warlike, fierce, and intractable.—They worshipped Odin, the father of carnage.

The government of the Goths, after their settlement in the Roman provinces, was monarchical. It was at first elective, and afterwards became hereditary. The sovereign on his death-bed appointed his successor, with the advice or consent of his grandees.

The dukes and counts were the chief officers under the Gothic government. The duke was the commander in chief of the troops of the province; the count was the highest civil magistrate. Of the counts there were various orders, with distinct official powers, as chamberlain, constable, &c. These various officers were the grandees

of the kingdom, and constituted the council of the sovereign.

4. Amidst the decay of the arts, the loss of public spirit, and the sufferings of the great mass of the Roman people, the luxury and wealth of the privileged few, are truly astonishing.

“The accurate description of the city (Rome) which was composed in the Theodosian age, enumerates 1780 houses, the residence of wealthy and honorable citizens. Many of these stately mansions might almost excuse the exaggeration of the poet (Claudian) that Rome contained a multitude of palaces, and that each palace was equal to a city: since it included, within its own precincts, every thing which could be subservient either to use or luxury, markets, hippodromes, temples, fountains, baths, porticoes, shady groves, and artificial aviaries. The historian Olympiodorus, who represents the state of Rome, when it was besieged by the Goths, continues to observe that several of the richest senators, received from their estates an annual income of 4000*l.* of gold, (above 160,000*l.* sterling) without computing the stated provision of corn and wine, which, had they been sold, might have equalled in value one third of the money.”

“According to the description of Chrysostom, an auction of Byzantine luxury must have been very productive. Every wealthy house possessed a semi-circular table of massy silver, such as two men could scarcely lift, a vase of solid gold of the weight of 40*l.* cups, dishes of the same metal,” &c.*

* Gibbon.

PERIOD III.

THE PERIOD OF THE JUSTINIAN CODE
AND OF THE WARS OF BELISARIUS,

EXTENDS FROM THE EXTINCTION OF

THE WESTERN EMPIRE,



*476 years A. C. to the Flight of Mahomet, 622
years A. C. The length of this period is 146
years.*

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD III.

The principal events of this period are five.

First, the Taking of Rome by Odoacer,
prince of the Heruli :

Second, the Reign of Theodoric the Great,
in Italy :

Third, the Defeat of the Vandals in Africa,
by Belisarius :

Fourth, the Subjugation of the Ostrogoths in Italy, by Belisarius :

Fifth, the Conquest of Italy by the Lombards.

The dark ages, as they have been commonly called, commenced with this period. At least the darkness now begins to be particularly apparent, and we shall find it prevailing over the nations, though with some intervals of light, nearly 1000 years. Records, however, of the times, and of the state of the human mind, are found both in civil and ecclesiastical writers.

1. *The Taking of Rome by Odoacer, prince of the Heruli*, put an end to the Western Roman Empire, 476 A. C. The length of time which it had existed as an empire, viz. from the battle of Actium, was 507 years. The whole period from the building of the city was 1224 years. The Eastern empire of Rome continued several ages after this date, though in comparative weakness.

The extinction of the Western empire took place during the reign of Romulus, surnamed Augustulus, the son of Orestes. Odoacer, having subdued Italy, and taken its capital, spared the life of Augustulus, on condition of his resigning the throne.

This feeble youth was directed to signify his resignation to the senate; while that body humbly requested Zeno, the emperor of the East, to invest Odoacer with the administration of the diocese of Italy. To Augustulus was assigned a splendid income to support him in a private station, at a villa in Campania.

Writers have not failed to remark that the empire began in Augustus, and ended in a prince, called by a diminutive of that name, meaning "Little Augustus."

The ruin of the Roman empire was the result of its greatness, connected with its moral corruption. The divine perfections are concerned in effecting by natural causes, the extinction of enormously guilty nations.—Rome, having become a mass of luxury, weakness and

profligacy fell an easy prey to the barbarians who poured in upon its dominions.

2. *The Reign of Theodoric the Great, in Italy*, commenced 488 years A. C. Having wrested the sovereignty of that country from the hands of Odoacer, by means of several engagements, he enjoyed the possession of it for a number of years, with credit to himself, and with the approbation of his Roman subjects.

The Herulian dominion in Italy, under Odoacer, lasted but a little beyond 20 years. The whole nation of the Ostrogoths attended the standard of Theodoric, their prince, who had obtained permission of the Eastern emperor, to attempt the recovery of Italy, and a promise of its sovereignty as the reward of his success.

After a severe struggle, Odoacer surrendered all Italy to the conqueror. The happiness enjoyed by the Romans, under Odoacer, was not at all diminished, but rather increased, by their change of masters. Theodoric has the reputation of having been an able and virtuous prince, though he was doubtless too partial to the Arian heresy, and though some acts of cruelty marked the conclusion of his reign.

3. *The Defeat of the Vandals in Africa, by Belisarius*, occurred 534 years A. C. By that event, Africa was recovered to the empire. The army of the Vandals under Gelimer, a successor of Genseric, vastly exceeded that of the Romans; but the fate of Africa was soon decided, by the valor of the Roman general.

The hero Belisarius, who revived the fainting glory of Rome, was born among the Thracian peasants, and had gradually risen to military command in the army of Justinian. Great was his merit as a warrior and citizen, and though the ornament of Justinian's reign, he was often shockingly ill-treated by the latter.

In the expedition to Africa he encountered many dan-

gers, but meeting, soon after he landed, the army of Gelimer, he defeated it in a general engagement.

Gelimer, collecting his scattered forces, was soon joined by his brother Zano, and before he had arrived from the fields of Bulla to Tricameron, his army exceeded ten times that of the Romans. Belisarius, however, conscious of the superior merit of his troops, permitted the barbarians to surprise him at an unseasonable hour. But the battle was won by the Romans with scarcely any loss on their part, and the Vandal king was carried a prisoner to Constantinople.

4. *The Subjugation of the Ostrogoths in Italy, by Belisarius*, restored that country to the empire. This event took place 537 years A. C. The restoration, however, was temporary: for, after various turns of success and defeat, during 30 years, Italy was abandoned to the barbarians.

After taking various places in Italy, Belisarius approached the ancient capital of the empire. Vitiges, who had been raised to the head of the Gothic government, by a singular policy determined to delay offensive operations, and left Rome to its fate. Having recruited his forces, the Gothic monarch advanced to the capital, now occupied by Belisarius; but with 100,000 men he failed of his object, and was entirely defeated.

Six years after this event, Totila, the Goth, attempted the recovery of Italy from the Romans, and succeeded. Belisarius, who had been called away from the theatre of action, returned to Italy. but he was at first unable to preserve the capital. Totila took it, and began the work of destruction.

Warned, however, by Belisarius, who appealed to the barbarian's sense of glory, he forbore to execute his threat of changing Rome, into a pasture for cattle. Totila, soon leaving the city, to proceed to other conquests, and posting an army in its vicinity, Belisarius suddenly cut his way through the opposing enemy with only 1000 horse, and erected his standard on the capitol.

At this juncture, he was cruelly called away, through the jealousy of Justinian, and Narses, the eunuch, was despatched to prosecute the advantage already obtained

by Belisarius over the Gothic forces. The eunuch entirely succeeded. But he followed the fate of Belisarius, for he was ungratefully recalled by the successor of Justinian, after he had governed Italy with great ability for 13 years. To avenge his injuries, he invited the Lombards to invade the country.

5. *The Conquest of Italy by the Lombards*, was accomplished under their leader, Alboin, 568 years A. C. They expelled the Ostrogoths from the country, and were masters of the greatest portion of it, for 206 years. They had a succession of 21 kings, the last of whom was defeated and imprisoned by Charlemagne.

The Lombards have given a permanent name to a portion of Italy, viz. Lombardy. The occasion of their entrance into this country, was the invitation of Narses, the eunuch, to avenge his wrongs. In five months after the departure of Alboin from Pannonia, Milan was invested by his forces, and from the Tarentine hills to the gates of Ravenna and Rome, the inland parts of Italy submitted without a siege or a battle.

Some attempts were made by Maurice, the Eastern emperor, assisted by several barbarian chiefs, to expel the Lombards. Little, however, was effected, except some political changes, and during a period of more than 200 years, Italy was unequally divided between the kingdom of the Lombards, and the exarchate of Ravenna. Charlemagne, as will hereafter appear, put an end to their sovereignty.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD III.

1. *Proclus*, a learned Platonist and unbeliever.
2. *Boethius*, a Roman poet and Platonic philosopher.
3. *Procopius*, a Roman historian, and last of the classic writers.
4. *Cassidorus*, the historian of Ravenna, and tutor to Theodoric, the Gothic king.

5. *Belisarius*, a heroic and successful general of Justinian.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD III.

1. The majesty of the Roman empire shone out, for a short time, under the auspices of Justinian, by means of the successes of *Belisarius*. Italy, however, was essentially lost to the empire, notwithstanding the temporary dominion regained over it by the Eastern emperor. The blow had been struck which was destined to sink the world, for ages, into barbarism, and ignorance, and crime.

The civilized nations, bound up together in one mighty and unwieldy community, had been prepared, by a variety of causes, for the catastrophe which awaited them. The Northern invaders did not originate; they scarcely hastened this catastrophe. As much of crime and barbarism as they brought with them, they became, upon their settlement in the south of Europe, as reputable, at least, as the native citizens themselves.

Without the agency of the Northern invaders, darkness and barbarism would have visited the Roman world, so long as such monstrous abuses of human right, and especially of the divine religion of the Gospel, were suffered to exist.

2. As a consequence of this state of things, the arts and sciences fell rapidly during this period. The lights of human nature were seen in far less numbers, and shone with far less splendor than formerly, in the intellectual horizon. The classic authors end with this period; yet it is distinguished as the era of the Justinian Code.

The review of the Roman jurisprudence in this work, and also in the *pandects* and *institutes*, is a noble monument of Justinian's spirit and industry. The domestic institutions of Europe acknowledge the public reason of the Romans, and the laws of Justinian still command the respect and obedience of independent nations. It was towards the latter part of this period that the Latin tongue ceased to be spoken in Italy.

3. Christianity, during this period, was considerably extended, particularly in Gaul, Britain, and Scotland, and among some barbarous tribes beyond the Danube. But many of the conversions were doubtless only in name,

since the Gospel seemed to have very little control, in general, over those who professed to embrace it.

Religious error and corruption manifestly advanced during this period. The declension of science and of religion reciprocally accelerated each other. The Arian heresy very considerably prevailed, and the monastic life came more and more in repute.

After the subjugation of Italy by the Lombards, the christians in that country were severely persecuted, for several years, by these new invaders. But in the year 587, Authasis, the third monarch of the Lombards, embraced Christianity as professed by the Arians, and his successor, Agilutf, adopted the tenets of the Nicene Catholics.

The labors of Augustin, the monk, in Britain, were peculiarly successful. Six Anglo-Saxon kings, who had hitherto remained in their pagan state, were converted, and Christianity, at length, was universally embraced throughout Britain. Many of the British, Scotch, and Irish ecclesiastics, travelled among the Batavian, Belgic and German nations, and propagated Christianity among them.

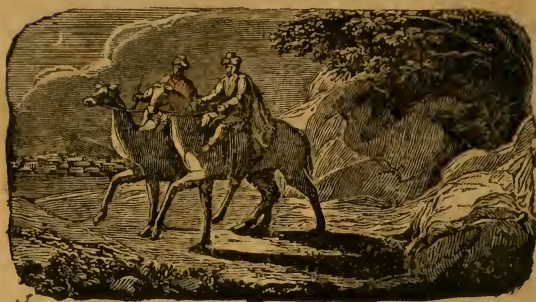
4. After the fall of the Western empire, commerce was long at a stand in Europe. It was not greatly extended previously to that event. The most adventurous voyages were the circumnavigation of Britain. The ancients did not know that Africa was almost circumnavigable. They had so limited a knowledge of the earth, that they believed both the torrid and frigid zones were uninhabitable.

Their commerce was chiefly confined to the Mediterranean. When Attila was ravaging the empire, the Veneti took refuge in the small islands at the northern extremity of the Adriatic, and there founded Venice, which began very early to equip small fleets, and trade to the coasts of Egypt and the Levant, for spices and other merchandize of Arabia and India.

Genoa, Florence and Pisa, imitated this example, and began to acquire wealth; but Venice retained her superiority over these rival states, and gained from the opposite coasts of Illyricum and Dalmatia, considerable territories.

PERIOD IV.**THE PERIOD OF THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF THE SARACEN DOMINIONS,**

EXTENDS FROM THE FLIGHT OF

MAHOMET,

*622 years A. C. to the Crowning of Charlemagne
at Rome, 800 years A. C. The duration of
this period is 178 years.*

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD IV.

We may enumerate six principal events during this period.

First, the Flight of Mahomet from Mecca to Medina :

Second, the Siege of Constantinople by the Saracens :

Third, the Conquest of Spain by the Saracens :

Fourth, the Defeat of the Saracens by Charles Martel :

Fifth, the Termination of the kingdom of the Lombards in Italy :

Sixth, the Assumption of the Imperial power in the East by Irene.

During this period, the light of science became far more dim, than during the preceding, and both writer and reader must "walk amidst assassins and executioners, without scarcely finding objects less dreadful on which they may rest their eye."

1. *The Flight of Mahomet, from Mecca to Medina*, was occasioned by the opposition he met with in propagating his religion. It happened 622 years A. C. At Medina he was joined by Omar, and returning to Mecca, he took it by force of arms. In this manner, his impostures, which have been continued to the present time, in many countries of the East, were first imposed upon mankind.

Mahomet was born at Mecca, on the Red Sea, in 569. He was of mean parentage and education, but a man of genius, which was enlarged by intercourse with mankind, and quickened by ambition.

The religion of which he was the author, was a system of Asiatic voluptuousness and Arabian superstition, grafted partly on the morality of the Gospel, and partly on some of the rites of Judaism. The Koran, which he wrote in detached parcels, imbodied the substance of his religion, and is the sacred book of the Mussulmans.

From the time that he took Mecca, he never laid down his arms, till he had subdued all Arabia and a part of Syria, imposing his religion wherever he extended his conquests. In the midst of his successes he died, at the age of 61, A. C. 632.

Under his immediate successors, Abubeker, Omar, Otman, and Ali, in the space of 50 years an empire was erected, more extensive than what remained of the Ro-

man. It included Arabia, Syria, Phœnicia, Mesopotamia, Chaldœa, Persia, Egypt, Lybia, Numidia, Bactriana, and a part of Tartary.

The name of Saracens, or Moors, is given to those successors of Mahomet who extended their empire through North Africa, South Europe, and the islands of the Mediterranean. The last of this race is the present emperor of Morocco.

2. *The Siege of Constantinople, by the Saracens*, occurred 672 years A. C. It proved to be ineffectual, though the preparations made by the Saracens were vast, and their expectations of success undoubted. The result of this siege raised the reputation of the Roman* arms.

Mahomet, in his life time, had asserted that the sins of the first army which besieged Constantinople should be forgiven. This circumstance inspired the Saracen leaders and their troops, with singular enthusiasm. Their fleet passed through the unguarded channel of the Hellespont, and the troops were disembarked 7 miles from the city.

But their enthusiasm was in vain. The solid and lofty walls of Constantinople were well defended, and the Arabs were dismayed by the strange and prodigious effects of artificial fire. They withdrew to pass the winter at some distance from the capital, but repeated their attacks during the six following summers, till the loss of 30,000 Moslems, compelled them to relinquish the enterprise.

This result of the Saracen expedition induced a truce of 30 years, which was concluded between the two empires, and the commander of the faithful was reduced to submit to the payment of a heavy annual tribute. This badge of servitude, however, was soon shaken off, and the future emperors were unable to enforce it.

3. *The Conquest of Spain, by the Saracens*, was achieved under Muca, general of the Calif

* We apply the appellation of Greek or Roman indifferently to the Eastern Empire.

Walid, 713 years A. C. The conquerors, satisfied with the sovereignty of the country, left the Goths who had long been masters of Spain, in possession of their property, laws, and religion. By the marriage of Abdallah, the Moor, with the widow of the Gothic king, the two nations formed a perfect union.

The Saracens had lately founded in Africa, the empire of Morocco, which was governed by the general or viceroy, Muca. Muca sent *his* general Tariff into Spain, who, in a single memorable engagement, stripped the Gothic king, Rodrigo, of his crown and life.

One small part of the country of Asturia alone adhered to its christian prince, Pelagius, who, maintaining his little sovereignty, transmitted it inviolate to his successors. The preservation of this independency contributed afterwards to the deliverance of the north of Spain from the Moorish yoke.

In the south of Spain, however, for the space of two centuries, the kingdom of the Moors flourished in full vigor. Abdalrahman fixed the seat of his government at Cordova, which became a place of the utmost splendor and magnificence. The Moorish princes gained the highest reputation both in arts and arms, of all the nations of the West.

4. *The Defeat of the Saracens, by Charles Martel*, occurred 732 years A. C. They threatened all Europe with subjugation to the Mahomedan dominion and religion; and but for their providential defeat by Charles Martel, might have been, to this day, the masters of the civilized world.

Charles Martel was *mayor of the palace*, so called, under Thierry, king of France. The king, however, was only the nominal, Charles, was the real sovereign. Under his administration, the Saracens penetrated from Spain into France. The duke of Aquitain they defeated, and they were about to march into the heart of the kingdom.

But Martel, whose vigorous genius alone could have rescued the empire from destruction, brought them to a general engagement, between Tours and Poitiers. In spite of the ability of Abdarame, their chief, who disputed the ground with the utmost bravery, they were defeated, and compelled to retreat. They afterwards rallied, but were again defeated.

By this event, the terror with which they had inspired Europe, was diminished. Martel, soon afterwards, bequeathed the government of France, as an undisputed inheritance to his two sons, Pepin and Carloman. Pepin, however, soon succeeded to the sole administration, and was acknowledged by the Pope as king.

With him began the second, or Carlovingian race of kings in France.

5. *The Termination of the kingdom of the Lombards, in Italy*, was brought about by the agency of Charlemagne, 774 years A. C. At the request of the Pope, and in discharge of the obligation of his father Pepin, to the holy see, Charlemagne took the field against Desiderius, king of the Lombards, and having defeated him, put an end to the Lombard dominion in Italy.

Charlemagne had married the daughter of Desiderius. The latter, however, having very indiscreetly afforded too open a protection to the widow and children of Carloman, brother to Charlemagne, with ambitious views, the French monarch divorced his wife. This Desiderius highly resented.

Applying to the Pope to favor his projects, and failing in the attempt, he attacked the Papal territory, and endeavored to seize on the person of the Pope. Charlemagne, however, coming seasonably to his assistance, met the Lombard king in battle, and taking possession of his sovereignty, was declared by the Pope king of Italy and patrician of Rome.

6. *The Assumption of the Imperial power, in the East, by Irene*, who was mother of Constantine VI. commenced 788 years A. C. It was

connected with the cruel murder of her son. She enjoyed the fruits of her enormous crime only a few years.

Irene was the widow of Constantine Porphyrogenitus, and constituted Regent during her son's minority. She kept the latter in entire subjection, even making him a prisoner in the apartments of his palace. Constantine, however, at length obtaining his liberty, assumed the government of the empire, and imprisoned his mother in return.

As, however, he continued to visit her, she acquired a peculiar ascendancy over him, probably by encouraging his vices, and thus rendering him odious to his subjects. This afforded a pretext for her cruel machinations. Being left with the army in Bythia, she despatched several officers to depose her son.

They arrived at Constantinople, without being suspected of such a design, and put out the emperor's eyes in so barbarous a manner, that he died three days afterwards in the most excruciating pain. Nicephones, the great treasurer, had, in the mean time, made a party against his mistress, and obtaining the purple, he secured the riches of Irene.

This being accomplished, he banished her to the isle of Lesbos, where the want of a decent provision obliged her to earn a scanty subsistence by the labors of the distaff. Here she died of vexation, having enjoyed her ill-gotten power but six years after the murder of her son.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD IV.

1. *Mahomet*, an Arabian impostor, and founder of the religion which is called by his name.
2. *Bede*, a venerable English historian.
3. *Charles Martel*, the father of a race of kings, and conqueror of the Saracens.
4. *John Damascenus*, a christian writer strongly tinctured with the Aristotlean philosophy.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD IV.

1. Scarcely any writers, or men of genius worthy of note, appeared during this period—a striking and melau-

choly contrast to the days of Grecian and Roman glory, which the world had once seen. The sciences suffered great decay. Taste was extinguished.

A sort of attention was paid to learning, but with scarcely any effect. The common course of studies in all the schools was grammar, logic, rhetoric, music, arithmetic, geometry and astronomy. The first three were called Trivium, or trifling studies: the last four Quadrivium, or high studies. A vain and ideal philosophy had begun universally to infect the minds of men.

2. The Feudal System came more notoriously into use during this period. By this expression is properly meant, that tenure on which the proprietors of land held their possessions, viz. an obligation to perform military service, whenever required by the chief to whom they owed allegiance.

Some have supposed that it originated with the Franks who conquered Gaul, but it is probably derived from a remoter source. Among the people, during the race of the Merovingian kings it came very generally into use, and by degrees extended itself over most of the nations of Europe.

It subsisted among the Romans, who, to check the inroads of the barbarian nations, and to secure their distant conquests, were obliged to maintain fixed garrisons on their frontiers. To each officer in those garrisons, it was customary to assign a portion of land as the pledge and pay of his service. These gifts were termed *beneficia*, or fiefs.

These fiefs were at first revocable by the sovereign, and reverted to him, on the death of the vassal. But the possessors of fiefs, under the Merovingian kings, at length obtained independency and security of property.

It was a consequence of a fief becoming hereditary, that it should be capable of being given out in portions, and that the vassal himself holding his land of the sovereign by the tenure of military service, should be able to create a train of inferior vassals, by giving to them parts of his estate to be held on the same condition, of following his standard in battle, rendering him homage as their lord, and paying, as a symbol of their subjection, a small annual present.

3. The Empire of the East retained a vestige of its ancient splendor during this period. It had lost its African and Syrian provinces, and was plundered by the Saracens on the eastern frontier, and ravaged on the north and west, by the Abari and Bulgarians. The capital was splendid and refined, but presented a constant scene of rebellions and conspiracies.

The imperial family itself exhibited a series of the most horrid crimes. One emperor was put to death in revenge of murder and incest; another was poisoned by his queen; a third was assassinated in the bath by his own domestics; a fourth tore out the eyes of his brothers; the empress Irene, whose talents commanded respect, was infamous for the murder of her only son.

The times were remarkable, indeed, for profligacy, and for misery, its concomitant.

4. The Church partook of the degeneracy, or rather by its corruption, became the cause of it. Pure christianity was but little known, amidst futile forms and ceremonies, and external pomp. Worldly ambition had taken possession of the pretended vicegerents of Christ.

The popes now began to acquire a temporal authority, from the donations of territory made by christian princes, and they were gradually extending a spiritual jurisdiction over all the christian kingdoms. It was not long before they attained to the height of their power, a circumstance which will be noticed in the next period.

It was during this period, as we have seen, that Mahometanism arose, whose author conceived the bold project of subverting the Christian religion and the Roman power. By artifice and force he so far succeeded during his life time, as to impose his opinions on multitudes in Arabia and in the adjacent regions.

After his decease, his fanatical followers, aided by the Nestorian christians, extended their conquests throughout the East, and the whole of the extent of the northern coast of Africa. The mahometan religion spread wherever their sword made way for it. The cause of Christianity was thus trampled upon in the East and in Africa, and was beginning to lose ground in Europe, but here, as we have seen, the Saracen dominion was checked.

Notwithstanding the sway of Mahometanism in the East

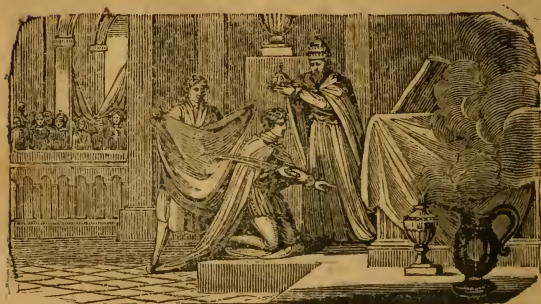
Christianity was externally advanced in Europe. Several pagan nations received its light, particularly the Germans, Bavarians, Swiss, Belgie, Saxons and Huns.

PERIOD V.

THE PERIOD OF THE NEW WESTERN EMPIRE,

EXTENDS FROM THE CROWNING OF

CHARLEMAGNE, AT ROME,



800 years *A. C.* to the first Crusade, 1095 years
A. C. The duration of this period is 295 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD V.

We may assign to this period five principal events.

First, the Crowning of Charlemagne at Rome :

Second, the Union of the Saxon Heptarchy under Egbert :

Third, the Defeat of the Danes, or Normans, by Alfred the Great :

Fourth, the Reign of John Zimisces, Emperor of the East :

Fifth, the Landing of William the Conqueror in Britain.

The Roman Empire, which has filled so large a space in the eyes of mankind, at this era had fallen very considerably from its emiaence; while other nations and sovereignties began to make a figure on the stage, and to attract a portion of public attention. With the decay of the Roman empire, and the corruption of the Christian religion, was connected the increasing darkness of the times.

1. *The Crowning of Charlegmane at Rome*, 800 years A. C. as Emperor of the West, was performed by Pope Leo III. It was during his last visit to Italy that Charlemagne was established in this august sovereignty. It is thought by some, that if he had chosen Rome as the seat of his government, and at death had transmitted an undivided dominion to his successor, the fallen empire must have been once more restored to prosperity and greatness.

Charlemagne was accustomed to pass annually from the Pyrenees into Germany, and thence to Italy. In approaching Rome for the last time, the Pope despatched a messenger to meet him with the keys of the confession of St. Peter, and the standard of the city of Rome. From this union of religious and military attributes, it was evident that Charlemagne was on the eve of becoming emperor

Accordingly on Christmas-day, which was then the day of the new year, being present at the service of the mass,

and on his knees before the altar, the Pope came suddenly behind him, and placed on his head the crown of the Cæsars. This act was followed by loud acclamations.

An august title which had lain dormant for several centuries, was thus revived. It did not however restore Rome to its ancient splendour. Charlemagne had no fixed capital, and divided, even in his life-time, his dominions among his children. The New Western Empire subsisted only in name among the successors of Charlemagne.

2. *The Union of the Saxon Heptarchy under Egbert*, was effected 827 years A. C. nearly 400 years after the first arrival of the Saxons in Britain. This is properly the commencement of the kingdom of England. The seven distinct sovereignties, which constituted the Heptarchy, becoming one, were from this time governed by one king.

As there was no established rule of succession, the Saxon princes adopted the barbarous policy of putting to death all the rivals of their intended successor. Owing to this cause, connected at the same time with the passion for celibacy, the royal families were nearly extinguished in the kingdoms of the Heptarchy.

Egbert, prince of the West Saxons, remained at length the sole surviving descendant of the Saxon conquerors of Britain. His ambition was excited by this favourable circumstance, and in attempting the conquest of the Heptarchy he entirely succeeded in the enterprize. An union of all the separate states into one great kingdom was the effect of his victorious arms, and judicious policy.

3. *The Defeat of the Danes by Alfred the Great*, was several times repeated, before the effect was produced of suspending their depredations. They were, for a long time, an incessant scourge to the English coast. Alfred accomplished his heroic enterprize, 890 years A. C.

When Alfred ascended the throne, he found the king-

dom reduced to extreme wretchedness. The Normans, or Danes, had, during fifty years, ravaged the coasts of the island. Alfred in one year gained over them eight battles; but a new irruption of their countrymen forced him to solicit a peace, which these pirates frequently interrupted by fresh hostilities.

At this juncture Alfred was compelled to secure his person by retreating into an obscure part of the country. Here he staid many months, until the disorders of the Danish army offered a fair opportunity for attacking them, which he embraced with great effect. Instead of entirely destroying them, as he might have done, he incorporated many of them with his English subjects.

This clemency however did not prevent their countrymen from attempting a new invasion. They were terribly defeated, and met with so severe a treatment, that they were intimidated, and for some time ceased to molest the island.

4. *The Reign of John Zimisce*, Emperor of the East, commenced 969 years A. C. It was signalized by the success of his arms against the Russians and the Saracens, the one on the Danube, and the other on the Tigris. His general, Bardes, with 12,000 men, routed an army of 300,000.

John Zimisce was a noble Armenian by birth, of uncommon stature, strength, and beauty, and of an heroic soul. He was duly proclaimed after the demise of his predecessor, in accomplishing whose fate he is said to have been concerned. A just Providence, it would seem, awarded him, however, a similar treatment.

The success of his wars against the Russians and Saracens had acquired for him the title of conqueror of the East, and saviour of the empire. On his return, however, from these conquests, observing the princely establishments of the eunuch Basil, who had greatly enriched himself, during the preceding reigns, with the blunt sincerity of a soldier, he exclaimed, "What, must the Roman empire be abandoned to the rapacity of an insolent eunuch?"

This expression cost him his life: a cup of poison was administered to him. Zimisces employed the short space that intervened between the fatal draught and his dissolution, in acts of piety and political regulations. He died universally lamented, in the 9th year of his reign.

5. *The Landing of William the Conqueror in Britain*, occurred 1066 years A. C. With 60,000 men he defeated the English under Harold in the field of Hastings, and soon afterwards took possession of the throne of England, which had been previously bequeathed to him by king Edward the Confessor.

William was Duke of Normandy, and a prince whose great abilities and personal prowess had rendered his name illustrious throughout Europe. Edward, the English king, upon his decease, made him his heir, with a view to defeat the progress of Harold, son of the earl of Wessex, who aimed to usurp the crown.

On the death of Edward, Harold actually took possession of the throne, which the intrepid Norman determined immediately to regain as his rightful inheritance. His preparations were very formidable, and he was aided in this romantic age, by many sovereign princes, and a vast body of nobility from the different kingdoms on the continent.

A Norwegian fleet of 300 sail entered the Humber. The troops were disembarked; and, after one successful engagement, were defeated by the English army in the interest of Harold. William landed his army on the coast of Sussex, and the English, flushed with their recent success, hastily advanced to meet him. They were however totally routed and discomfited. The Conqueror's possession of the throne was the consequence of this victory.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD V.

1. *Charlemagne*, a successful warrior and able sovereign.

2. *Photius*, a learned Christian writer and philosopher

3. *Alfred*, a wise, learned and virtuous prince.

4. *Avicenna*, an Arabian philosopher and physician.

5. *Suidas*, a Greek lexicographer.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD V.

1. Literature, science and taste, were words but little known and used during this period. Persons of the highest rank, and in the most elevated stations, could not read or write. Many of the clergy did not understand the breviary which they were obliged daily to recite; some of them could scarcely read it.

The human mind, neglected, uncultivated and depressed, sank into the most profound ignorance. Charlemagne and Alfred the Great, by their superior genius, endeavoured to dispel this darkness, and to give their subjects a short glimpse of light. But the ignorance of the age was too powerful for their efforts and institutions. The darkness returned and prevailed throughout Europe more or less, till the 15th century.

The scarcity of books in those times, and the nature of their subjects, as legends, lives of the saints, &c. account in part for such a state of things. What of learning was possessed was confined to a few ecclesiastics. The only national exception to the profound ignorance of the age, were the Arabians.

That part of Europe which they held, viz. Spain, was much more enlightened than any of the other states. The caliph Haroun Alraschid made Bagdat illustrious by the successful cultivation of the arts and sciences. It was during this period that the Arabians introduced figures into Europe.

2. The state of the mechanic arts was very low in Europe at this time: the Saracens had made more progress in them. The fine arts, particularly sculpture and painting, were preserved from absolute extinction, only by the existing remains of ancient art.

Charlemagne appears to have been anxious for the improvement of music, and the musical gamut was about this time invented. The Italians are said to have instructed his French performers in the art of playing on

the organ. Architecture was cultivated in a style termed the *Gothic*, which admits of great beauty and magnificence.

During these times, there were no inns in Europe, unless in great cities. Every man was obliged by law to give accommodation to travellers. The chief towns were built of wood.

The art of war seems not to have been much altered or improved. In the New Western Empire, cavalry were not numerous, twelve farms being taxed to furnish only one horseman with his armour and accoutrements. The engines for the attack and defence of towns were, as in former times, the ram, the balista, catapulta, testudo, &c.

3. Commerce and navigation gradually increased in this age. Charlemagne had his ships of war stationed in the mouths of all the larger rivers. He bestowed great attention on commerce. The merchants of Italy and the south of France traded to the Levant, and exchanged the commodities of Europe and Asia. Venice and Genoa were rising into commercial opulence.

Manufactures were then not unknown. Those of wool, glass and iron, were cultivated with considerable success in many of the principal towns in the south of Europe.

4. In the laws and manners of the Northern nations, there were some striking peculiarities, as, for instance, the pecuniary fines for homicide, the ordeal or judgment of God, and judicial combat.

The magistrate interfered not to punish, but to reconcile contending parties, and was satisfied, if he could persuade the aggressor to pay, and the injured to accept, the moderate fine which was imposed as the price of blood, and the measure of which was regulated according to the rank, the sex, and the country of the person slain.

In the ordeal or judgment of God, the criminal was ordered, at the option of the judge, to prove his innocence, by the trial of cold water, of boiling water, or red hot iron. He was exposed to drowning, scalding and burning, in a manner which we should necessarily suppose would be fatal to him; and yet if we were to credit accounts of the experiments made, we should believe that the supposed culprit often escaped without hurt or suffering.

The judicial combat, though sanctioned by high author

rity, even so late as the last century, in France and England, was a bloody and iniquitous custom, which to this day may be traced in the practice of duelling.

For the most part, the state of the Church was extremely low during this period. The darkness and corruption of the times were so great, that but few enlightened and consistent believers could be found. Christianity was dishonoured both by the principles and practices of its teachers.

All ranks of the clergy were characterized by ambition, voluptuousness and ignorance. Benefices were publicly exposed for sale, so that the lowest and most profligate men often obtained them.

The popes generally extended their temporal authority, and, together with the rest of the clergy, engrossed a share of influence in the administration of civil government, altogether inconsistent with their sacred functions. Ecclesiastics became temporal rulers; and kings, and princes, and nobles, shut themselves up in cloisters, and spent their lives in penances.

The separation of the Greek from the Latin Church took place at this era, a circumstance which severely wounded the popedom, when it seemed to have reached its greatest height. This event was brought about in consequence of a long-standing difference between the Greek and Latin bishops, relating to several points of practice and discipline, but more especially in consequence of the ambition of rival pontiffs.

Apostacies to the Saracen religion took place in considerable numbers, and yet during this period the Gospel was disseminated, and in some instances by very pious missionaries, among the Moesians, Bulgarians, Slavonians, Russians, Swedes, Danes, Norwegians, and several other nations and tribes.

PERIOD VI.**THE PERIOD OF THE CRUSADES**

EXTENDS FROM THE

FIRST CRUSADE,

1095 years A. C. to the Founding of the Turkish Empire, 1299 years A. C. The length of this period is 204 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD VI.

This period presents to us six principal events.
First, the Commencement of the Crusades to the Holy Land :

Second, the Signing of Magna Charta, by John, king of England :

Third, the Termination of the Saracen Empire :

Fourth, the Recovery of Constantinople, by the Greeks :

Fifth, the Conquest of China, under the Mogul Tartars :

Sixth, the Expulsion of the English from Scotland, under William Wallace.

This period, in addition to the general darkness of the middle ages, was marked by some peculiar characteristics, as the passion for pilgrimages, the exploits of chivalry, and the production of romances. The lights of science were very rare, and barbarism and turbulence reigned over most of the nations.

1. *The Commencement of the Crusades, to the Holy Land*, is dated 1095 years A. C. The Crusades were religious wars, waged by Christian Europe, chiefly against the Turks or Mahometans, with a view to recover Palestine from their hands. There were five expeditions of the kind, which, during two centuries, drained from Europe most of its life-blood, and treasures. They failed entirely as to their ultimate object, though some of their results were important.

The Turks, or Turcomans, a race of Tartars, having, in 1055, taken Bagdat, and thus overturned the empire of the caliphs, came into possession of the countries which these caliphs had governed, and the caliphs themselves, instead of temporal monarchs, became sovereign pontiffs of the mahometan faith. Palestine and Jerusalem were, of course, under the sway of the Turks and their religion.

In this situation of things, the resort of pilgrims, to the tomb of our Saviour, was necessarily rendered vexatious to them—a circumstance, in those superstitious times, of sufficient magnitude to arouse all Europe for the deliverance of Jerusalem from the infidels. The Roman pontiffs were principal instigators of these desperate adventures.

In the first crusade, an army of 80,000 men, led by Peter, the hermit, was destroyed ; but the army that follow-

ed, consisting of several hundred thousands. under Godfrey, had the good fortune to conquer Syria and Palestine, which they held for several years. The crusaders, however, weakened their power, by dividing their conquests into four separate states

In this situation, they found it necessary to solicit aid from Europe, and accordingly another crusade, in 1146, set out from the West, amounting to 200,000 men, under Hugh, brother to the French king. But these met with the same fate which attended the army of Peter. Another army of 300,000 soon followed, and were soon dissipated and destroyed.

In the mean time, the infidels, under Saladin, had recovered Palestine from the christians. Europe felt the indignity, and France, England, and Germany, each sent forth an army, headed by its own sovereign. On the lion-hearted Richard I. of England, the weight of the contest at length rested, and he defeated the illustrious Saladin, on the plains of Ascalon.

Richard, however, was at length obliged to escape from the East, since hunger and fatigue had so greatly reduced his army, that he was unable to retain his conquests. The fourth crusade, in 1202, was directed not against the infidels, but against the Greek empire. Constantinople was taken, and held by the crusaders, consisting of the French and Venetians, for a number of years. The result we shall soon learn.

The object of the fifth crusade, was to lay waste Egypt, in revenge for an attack on Palestine. by its sultan. This expedition was like the rest, ruinous in the end. The crusades are, by some, thought to have benefited Europe on the whole. But neither their benefits nor their disadvantages can here be detailed.

2. *The Signing of Magna Charta, by John, king of England*, took place on the 19th of June, 1215. This Charter is the foundation and bulwark of English liberty. It was yielded to the nation through the importunity and firmness of the barons.

John had made the pope his enemy, by appropriating, to his own purposes, some of the treasures of the church,

and he met the full extent of the papal vengeance. At first obstinate, he was finally intimidated into submission, and, after several personal concessions, he agreed to hold his kingdom tributary to the holy see.

His subjects thus trampled upon and sold, felt it necessary to vindicate their rights. The barons assembled, and binding themselves by an oath, to a concert of measures, demanded, from the king, a ratification of a charter of privileges, granted by Henry I.

John refused till resort was had to the sword. That produced a compliance, and at Runymede, at the time above mentioned, he signed that famous charter, which has had so propitious an effect on the liberty of the English, and through them, on that of several other states and nations since.

3. *The Termination of the Saracen Empire*, is dated from the taking of Bagdat, by the Tartars, 1258 years A. C. The Tartars were led by Halaku, their general: and after the capture of the city, which contained immense treasures, he gave it up to his troops, to be pillaged seven days. Mostasem, the last of the caliphs, was put to death.

The later caliphs, in the decline of the Saracen empire, were not the warlike sovereigns, which their predecessors had been. They thought only of securing their ease and pleasure. Mostasem exceeded all the caliphs in ostentation and pride.

When he appeared in public, he usually wore a veil, the more effectually to attract the respect of the people, whom he considered as unworthy to look at him. On those occasions, nothing could exceed the eagerness of the multitude, to see him, by crowding the streets, and hiring the windows and balconies, at the most exorbitant prices.

Mostasem was deceived by his visier, and accordingly made a very inefficient attempt to oppose the enemy. Halaku, having made a few assaults, became master of the city; and taking the luxurious caliph, and confining him in a leather sack, dragged him about the streets of the city, till he expired.

4. *The Recovery of Constantinople, by the Greeks*, was accomplished under Michael Palæologus, 1261 years A. C. It had been taken by the French and Venetian crusaders about 60 years before, and governed, in the mean time, by their own sovereigns. The Greek emperors established a distinct sovereignty in Asica, at some distance from Constantinople.

The Latin empire of Constantinople, is to be considered as fixed to that city, and circumscribed within a greater or less extent, according to the successes or reverses of the Greeks, Turks, and Bulgarians, and even the Latins, who assailed it in all quarters.

The first emperor among the conquerors of Constantinople, was Baldwin, count of Flanders, and Hainault.—The last of their emperors was also one of the same name. In his reign, the former and ancient sovereigns of Constantinople determined to retake the seat of the empire.

Palæologus possessed the requisite ambition. His designs were promoted by the Genoese, the rivals of the Venetians. The Latins had been gradually driven from their last possessions in Thrace; and at a time when the bravest of the French and Venetians were absent from the city, a general of Palæologus advanced in the night to its gates.

He succeeded in entering it, partly by a subterranean passage into the heart of the city. Baldwin, in dismay escaping to the sea shore, was conveyed to Italy, and spent the remainder of his life in vainly attempting to rouse the Catholic powers, to join in his restoration.

5. *The Conquest of China, under the Mogul Tartars*, was completed 1280 years A. C. A considerable portion of it had been previously brought into subjection, by Gengiskan, the celebrated conqueror. His fourth son, Kublay took possession of his conquests in that country and became the first emperor of a new dynasty.

The extent and celerity of the Mogul conquests, ha

rarely been equalled in history. In the beginning of the 13th century, Gengiskan overran India, China, Persia, and Asiatic Russia. Kublay entered on his conquests in China, bringing the rest of the country into subjection.

The nephew and the three sons of Li-tsong, in succession, were the last sovereigns of the 19th dynasty of Chinese emperors. With this dynasty, ended, in fact, the Chinese dominion.

Kublay had the wisdom and prudence to govern the Chinese according to their ancient laws and customs; and by his equity and justice, by his love and regard to learned men, and by his fatherly tenderness to all his subjects, he found a most effectual way of reconciling them to his government.

The descendants of these Mogul conquerors of China, reign, in that country, at the present time.

6. *The Expulsion of the English from Scotland, under William Wallace, 1296 years A. C.* was a remarkable instance of heroism. Wallace was joined by a few patriots at first, but his successes, at length, brought large numbers to his standard. At Stirling he utterly defeated the English forces, and compelled them to evacuate the kingdom.

Edward I., of England, had invaded Scotland with an immense force, and compelled Baliol, the Scottish king, to abdicate the throne. In this crisis of affairs, William Wallace, a hero, took up arms in behalf of his country. His successes were remarkable. Victory succeeded to victory.

While Edward was absent, and engaged in war on the continent, Wallace attacked his troops, in a desperate engagement on the banks of the Forth, and obtained a complete victory. The English evacuated Scotland for a short time.

The disaffection of the Scottish nobles, who envied Wallace his distinction as Governor of the country, under Baliol, exposed them to the attack of the English again. After a fruitless resistance, the Scots submitted to Ed-

ward, and the heroic Wallace was eventually betrayed and put to death, in a most cruel manner.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD VI.

1. *Abelard*, a scholastic divine.
2. *Walter de Mapes*, a poet, the Anacreon of the 12th century.
3. *Gengiskan*, a Mogul, conqueror of Asia.
4. *Matthew Paris*, an early English historian.
5. *Roger Bacon*, an eminent English philosopher.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD VI.

1. The characteristic ignorance of this period, was relieved, in part, by the dawn of literature in England, under Henry, of Huntingdon. Jeoffrey, of Monmouth, John, of Salisbury, William, of Malmesbury, and a few others. Roger Bacon, an original genius and scholar, and the glory of the English nation, also, appeared during the latter part of this period. To him the advancement of science, in subsequent times, is singularly indebted.

The barbarism and subtleties of the schools, however, triumphed over better principles, and a more correct taste. The great teachers and patterns of dialectics and scholastic divinity, were characterized by the high-sounding epithets of *divine*, *angelical*, *irrefragable*, &c. The unenlightened state of the public mind, is evident from the amusements of the common people, which were romances, riddles, and marvellous tales and legends, in which giants, enchanters, and wizards conspicuously figured.

Knight errantry attained its acme at the period of the crusades. These afforded the means and the incentives of adventure and military distinction. Poetry and romance lent their aid to adorn and illustrate exploits of this nature. A species of extemporaneous poetry produced and recited by the troubadours, was in high demand in these times.

2. Commerce and manufactures were very considerably advanced in Europe, during this period. The mari-

time cities of Italy profited greatly by the crusades. Indeed, the Italians were by far the most commercial people in Europe, in the 12th and 13th century. Their merchants were the factors of all the European nations, and were induced, by immunities granted to them, to settle in France, Spain, Germany, and England.

The only trade in these last named countries, except England, was carried on at stated fairs and markets, which were the resort of traders from every quarter. These paid a tax to the sovereign of the territory. Venice set the first example of a national bank.

About the end of the 12th century, commerce began to spread towards the north of Europe. Trade was carried on between the sea-ports on the Baltic, and France, Britain, and the Mediterranean. *The league of the Hanse towns*, so called, was a confederacy of most of the northern sea-ports, to protect their trade from piracy. This was an association of great strength and importance.

The Britons early engaged in trade, and in the beginning of the 12th century the woollen manufacture of England was considerable, and very much encouraged by government.

3. Religion, during this period, continued in that low state, to which it had fallen, in some of the preceding periods. The church was corrupted in an awful degree. The iniquitous and abominable inquisition was established about this time, by pope Innocent III.

He was led to it by having appointed a holy commission, with power to try and punish the Albigenses, who were deemed heretics. This enterprize was marked by the most atrocious cruelties. The benefits of the holy commission were judged to be so great, that it became, from that time, a permanent establishment.

The religious spirit of the times was manifested, chiefly, by the passion for pilgrimages, and the crusades; but *genuine* Christianity had nothing to do with these superstitions and wild adventures. The conversion of pagans was a much nobler attempt, and this continued to engage the minds of a few pious believers.

Christianity was propagated in Pomerania, in the island of Rugen, among the Finlanders, and the Sclavonians, by the labors of missionaries. Forcible and unjustifiable

measures were, however, taken to convert the Prussians, and the inhabitants of Livonia. They were compelled, by force of arms, to receive baptism. This iniquitous procedure was dictated by the popes.

In Spain, Christianity gradually gained ground. The Saracen princes were continually opposed, by the kings of Castile, Leon, Navarre, and Arragon, and defeated. In consequence of this contest, the pale of the church was extended on every side. Christianity was, also, with some success, propagated by the Nestorian christians in the East, particularly on the borders of Calthay.

PERIOD VII.

THE PERIOD OF THE PAPAL SCHISM,

EXTENDS FROM THE FOUNDING OF THE

TURKISH EMPIRE,



1299 years *A. C.* to the *Taking of Constantinople* 1453 years *A. C.* The length of this period is 154 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD VII.

The principal events included within this period are Six.

First, the Founding of the Turkish Empire :

Second, the Establishment of the Swiss Republics :

Third, the Battle of Poitiers :

Fourth, the Schism of the double popes at Rome and Avignon :

Fifth, the Taking of Bajazet, prisoner by Tamerlane :

Sixth, the Recovery of France from the power of the English.

The dark ages continued until towards the conclusion of this period, when a concurrence of circumstances auspicious to the development of the human intellect, dispelled the darkness which had so long hung over the moral and literary world.

1. *The Founding of the Turkish Empire*, was connected with very important consequences in the history of the world, more particularly in regard to the Greek empire, which it at length superseded. This event is dated 1299 years A. C. and took place under Ottoman, or Othoman the first Sultan.

The Huns and Turks who were the descendants of the Scythians or Tartars had established themselves some centuries before in a tract of Asia called Georgia or Turcomania.

They became Mahometans ; and in 1037 seized Persia, and ravaged the neighboring countries, making themselves masters of Paestine. The insults which the Christian pilgrims received from them led to the Crusades, which we have already mentioned.

Ottoman, to whom the Ottoman empire owes its name and establishment, was a caliph or prince of the Turks.

Seizing on Bythinia, he fixed the seat of his government at Byrsa and assumed the title of Sultan. From this time they were known as the Ottoman race and sovereignty.

By degrees they encroached on the borders of the Greek empire, and were prevented from subverting it at an early stage, only by the necessity of defending themselves against the victorious Tamerlane.

2. *The Establishment of the Swiss Republics* in 1307 A. C. was occasioned by the tyrannical conduct of Albert, emperor of Germany. The Swiss having petitioned him against certain oppressions of his governors, he, in resentment, increased their burdens, which provoked a revolt, and ended in the expulsion of the Austrians. The several cantons associated for their common defence.

Switzerland was the Helvetia of the Romans, and was conquered by Julius Cæsar. Its natural strength left its inhabitants under but little more than a nominal subjection to the successors of the Roman Empire.

It was at the time of their emancipation, that William Tell refused to make obeisance to Gesler's cap, for which he was ordered to be hanged, unless he shot an arrow through an apple, placed at a distance on his own Son's head. He succeeded in the painful exploit.

Three of the cantons only first combined to assert their freedom, and a small army of 400 or 500 men defeated an immense host of the Austrians in the pass of Morgate, 1315. The rest of the cantons by degrees joined the association. Their liberty cost them 60 pitched battles.

3. *The Battle of Poitiers* on Sept. 19, 1356 years A. C. was gained by Edward the black prince over John king of France. The latter was taken captive, and led in triumph to London. His army, consisting of 60,000 men much exceeded that of the English.

Edward III. father of the black prince, had, for some

years preceding, pursued a career of victory over the French, having gained the famous battle of Cressy, in 1348. He had taken Calais which the English had held more than two centuries.

The black prince, who was so called from the color of his armor, followed in the steps of his father. The victory of Poitiers has immortalized his name. The English successes, however, were more honorable, than serviceable to the nation. The French vigorously prosecuted the war during the captivity of their sovereign.

The black prince died before his father, an event which broke the spirits of Edward, and plunged the nation in grief. He was a virtuous and heroic man, and fitted to rule a great empire.

4. *The Schism of the double popes at Rome and Avignon* began 1378 years A. C. continued 38 years. These places were each a separate seat of the popedom, made such by the opposite factions which prevailed in the electoral college. This was an occurrence which greatly distracted the affairs of the Church.

By pope Clement V. the popedom was transferred from Rome to Avignon, in 1309, where it remained till 1377. The factions of Italy were the cause of this removal.

Three separate parties of the French and Italian cardinals, having elected three separate popes, the emperor Sigismund judged this division of the church, to be a fit occasion for his interference, to reconcile all differences, and establish his own supremacy.

In 1414 he summoned a general council at Constance, and ended the dispute by deposing all the three pontiffs, and naming a fourth, Martin Colonna. It was at this council that the celebrated John Huss, a disciple of Wickliff, was tried and condemned for reputed heresy, and burnt alive.

5. *The taking of Bajazet prisoner by Tamerlane* occurred 1402 years A. C. It was the result of the battle of Angoria in Phrygia, in which Bajazet was defeated. Nearly a million

of men fought in this battle, and 300,000 were slain. The victorious career of the Turks was, for a time, suspended by this event.

Bajazet was a Turkish sultan, and successor of Amurat. Having proposed to besiege the capital of the Greek empire in form, he was suddenly forced to defend himself against Tamerlane.

Tamerlane, or Timer-bek was a prince of the Usbek Tartars, and a descendant from Gengiskan. Having conquered Persia and most of the East, he was invited by the enemies of Bajazet, to protect them against the Ottoman power.

He gladly accepted the invitation, and having met the Turks, he totally defeated him, and made him prisoner. The battle of Angoria was a famous one in the annals of war. Bajazet was shut up in an iron cage, in which he destroyed himself.

6. *The Recovery of France from the power of the English* was nearly completed, 1450 years A. C. This change was effected by slow degrees. After a struggle of many years, the possessions of the English, except Calais and Guignes were wrested from their hands.

The English had triumphed repeatedly over the French, and by the battle of Agincourt particularly. they opened the way for the occupation of the capital itself. But when the heroic English king, (Henry V.) had reached the period of his triumphs, the French in their turn won the field.

Under Charles VII. the war prospered. Joan of Arc, the maid of Orleans, was of signal service to the French cause. She raised the siege of Orleans, and defeated the English; but being taken prisoner by the latter, she was cruelly burnt, for alleged sorcery.

Her death however, was of service to her countrymen, inasmuch as it increased their aversion to the English dominion, and inspirited their efforts for freedom.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD VII.

1. *Dante* and
 2. *Petrarch*,
 3. *Wickliff*,
 4. *Froissart*,
 5. *Gower* and
 6. *Chaucer*,
- } classic Italian Poets.
- English theologian reformer.
- entertaining French chronicler.
- } fathers of English poetry.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD VII.

1. Poetry attained, in these ages, a degree of splendor; yet there was little advancement in general literature and science. Miracles and fables were woven too much into the texture of history. Nevertheless, we find much curious information in the writings of Walsingham, Eversard, Duysburg, and particularly Froissart.

But the ages of darkness were beginning to pass away. A taste for classical learning led to the discovery of many of the ancient authors. France and England however did not, at this time, exhibit any of the taste which was beginning to prevail. Few books, and scarcely any classics were found in either of these countries.

On the fall of the Eastern empire, an event soon to be mentioned, the face of things in regard to literature and science. was entirely changed.

2. The invention during this period, of the Mariners' Compass, that of gunpowder, and especially of the art of printing, gave a new direction to human affairs, and will continue to affect the destinies of all future ages. With the art of printing, the revival and extension of learning were intimately connected.

Fire arms were invented but a few years previous to the battle of Cressy, and in that battle the English are said to have used artillery, for the first time.

The condition of society, and of the arts, notwithstanding these illustrious efforts of human ingenuity, was low in comparison with modern times. Even in the large cities of England and France, the houses were roofed with thatch, and had no chimnies.

Glass windows were almost unknown, and floors had only straw for covering. The luxury of linen for shirts could be afforded only by the most wealthy. Public robbing was almost a profession.

3. Trade and manufactures in Europe continued to make progress, during this period. They were particularly encouraged by Edward III. of England, as appears by laws passed in his reign. He was bountiful in the encouragement of artisans from abroad.

In some of the succeeding reigns they were less encouraged. In this interval of their decay in England, commerce and the mechanical arts were encouraged in Scotland, by James I. and his successors. The rudeness and turbulence of the kingdom however, prevented their flourishing much.

To Scotland the fisheries began to be a source of wealth, but no foreign trade was carried on by that country, till after the discovery of America. In the south of Europe, and in the East, commerce flourished as usual.

4. During this period Christianity greatly declined in the East. Indeed it became almost extinct. The Turks and Tartars who extended their dominion with astonishing rapidity, substituted the imposture of Mahommed for the religion of Christ.

Tamerlane compelled multitudes, by his cruelties, to apostatize from the faith. Asiatic Tartary, Mogul, Tangu, and the adjacent provinces, where Christianity had long flourished, were now become the seats of superstition. In China some faint remains of religion as planted by the Nestorians were visible, but they soon entirely disappeared.

The profession of Christianity was retained in the contracted empire of Constantinople. The violent methods formerly commenced, to promulgate this holy religion in the north of Europe, were continued during this period, and most of the pagans in those regions were, in *this way*, converted to the faith.

The Jews, in considerable numbers, were *compelled* to embrace Christianity. France and Germany led the way in this infamous and useless method of extending the influence of a religion, whose very nature is opposed to violence.

PERIOD VIII.

THE PERIOD OF THE REFORMATION,

EXTENDS FROM THE TAKING OF

CONSTANTINOPLE,



1553 years A. C. to the *Edict of Nantes*, 1459 years A. C. The length of this period is 145 years.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD VIII.

The principal events of this period may be reduced to seven in number.

First, the Taking of Constantinople by the Turks :

Second, the Union of the Houses of York and Lancaster, in England :

Third, the Discovery of the continent of America by Columbus :

Fourth, the Reformation of religion in Germany by Luther :

Fifth, the Battle of Pavia :

Sixth, the Commencement of the Republic of Holland by the union of Utrecht :

Seventh, the Beheading of Mary, Queen of Scots.

The revolution of human affairs during this period is peculiarly striking. The light of learning and religion illustriously broke forth. The discovery of immense regions hitherto unknown, gave a prodigious spring to human enterprize. Events thicken upon us, as we proceed.

1. *The Taking of Constantinople by the Turks*, 1453 years A. C. occasioned the extinction of the Eastern Empire of the Romans. This empire, from the building of its capital, had subsisted 1123 years. The capture of the city was effected, with little difficulty, by Mahomet the Great, the Turkish sultan.

Constantine was the name of the last emperor of the East, as it was also the name of the first. His dominions had become exceedingly circumscribed. The Turks had gradually encroached upon its borders, and Constantinople would sooner have become the seat of the Ottoman power, had they not been obliged to defend themselves against the Tartars.

Mahomet II. after some delay, commenced the project which had long engaged the attention of the Turks. The indolent inhabitants of Constantinople made but a feeble preparation for defence, and all Europe was supine and indifferent.

The city was assailed both by sea and land—the walls were battered down with cannon, and all who opposed were massacred. The emperor was slain, and the city soon surrendered.

The Turks forbore to destroy the imperial edifices; and the churches were converted into mosques. The exercise of their religion, however, was allowed to all the

christians, and they have ever since chosen their own patriarch, who is installed by the sultan.

2. *The Union of the Houses of York and Lancaster*, in England, 1485 years A. C. was an auspicious event to the English nation. The miseries of civil war between the respective partizans of York and Lancaster had long oppressed the kingdom. Henry VII. united the rights of both families by his marriage with a daughter of Edward IV.

Richard, duke of Gloucester, had usurped the throne, and murdered Edward V. the reigning king, together with the king's brother, the duke of York. To these youths Richard was both uncle and guardian. So atrocious a deed found an avenger in Henry, earl of Richmond.

He was the only surviving heir of the house of Lancaster; and, assisted by the French king, he landed in England, and revived the spirits of a party almost extinguished in the kingdom.

He gave battle to Richard in the field of Bosworth, and entirely defeated the army of the usurper, who was slain, while fighting with the most desperate courage. This event terminated the horrors of these civil dissensions. By marrying into the family of York, Henry united it to that of Lancaster.

3. *The Discovery of the Continent of America by Columbus*, occurred 1494 years A. C. In two previous voyages he had discovered several islands bordering on the American continent. In the third voyage he discovered the continent itself. This event has had a most important bearing on the affairs of the world ever since.

Christopher Columbus was a Genoese, of an enterprising spirit, and surprizing genius. Bent on discovery, he made a fruitless application to several European courts for assistance. At length, however, he was so fortunate

as to engage Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain in his favour.

Under the immediate patronage of Isabella, he was furnished with three small ships, ninety men, and a few thousand ducats for the expense of the voyage.

After sailing twenty three days from the Canaries, with immense hazard and difficulty, he discovered land. This proved to be the island of San Salvador. Soon after he discovered Cuba and Hispaniola. This occurred in 1492.

Returning soon, he accomplished another voyage, in which he made further discoveries. In a third voyage he descried the continent, within ten degrees of the equator, towards the isthmus of Panama. The next year Americus, the geographer, followed the track of Columbus, and robbed him of the honour of giving name to the immense regions he had made known to mankind.

4. *The Reformation of Religion in Germany, by Luther*, may be dated 1517 years A. C. It was connected with a new era in the religious history of the world. The principles of the Reformation spread rapidly through several countries in Europe. The Papal religion received a wound which will never be healed.

Martin Luther was an Augustine friar. His attention was excited to the corruption and abuses of the Catholic religion, by the sale of indulgences, at that time instituted throughout all the Christian kingdoms of Europe. This enormity aroused the indignation of Luther, and opened his eyes to the iniquity of the whole system.

His anathemas found many willing hearers, particularly in the electorate of Saxony. The persecutions of the pope and catholics only increased his zeal and indignation as a preacher. On being summoned by Charles V to answer for his doctrines in the diet of Worms, he defended himself with great spirit.

By the aid of his friend and protector prince Frederick, he escaped thence into Saxony, where mass was now universally abolished, the images destroyed, and the convents shut up. The spirit which had been thus kindled, spread

next into Switzerland, where it produced the most important changes.

Sweden, Norway and Denmark soon embraced the Lutheran tenets, and the protestants, as all *they* were called who embraced the reformed religion, multiplied in France and England, as well as in Germany. The cruel persecutions of which the papists were guilty, greatly aided the reformation.

5. *The Abdication of Charles V. of Germany*, was an uncommon instance of the relinquishment of power by a despotic sovereign. He resigned first the kingdom of Spain to his son Philip, 1556 years A. C. and afterwards the imperial crown in favour of his brother Ferdinand. The remainder of his life he spent in a monastery.

Charles was the most powerful sovereign of Europe, his sway extending over Spain, Germany, and the Netherlands. He was generally successful in war, though (if such was his aim) universal empire was beyond his grasp. He never could bring his dominions into a well connected body.

His enemies were numerous and powerful, and gave him perpetual annoyance. His cares and difficulties increased as he advanced in life, and finding his health also decline, he determined to relinquish the burden of government.

Accordingly, in the plenitude of his power, he made a solemn and affectionate surrender of Spain and the Netherlands to his son, and soon after he formally resigned the empire of Germany to his brother Ferdinand, and out of all his immense possessions, he reserved to himself a pension only of 100,000 crowns, to be deducted from the revenue of Spain.

In the monastery of St. Just, in Spain, he passed two peaceful years in company with twelve domestics, and died in the 59th year of his age.

6. *The Commencement of the Republic of Holland by the Union of Utrecht*, is dated January

23d, 1579 years A. C. The states united to defend their common liberties, on account of the tyranny of their sovereign, Philip II. Seven out of the seventeen provinces, constituting the Netherlands, came into the measure. The remaining ten provinces had their charter renewed by Philip.

The Reformation had made considerable progress in the Netherlands. Philip, with a view to repress it, established the inquisition, and projected certain innovations which created alarm and tumult. The consequence of his machinations was, that many thousands of persons perished by the hands of the executioner.

The Prince of Orange having raised an army, and reduced some of the most important garrisons, was proclaimed Stadtholder of Holland and Zealand in 1570. The whole seventeen provinces had equally suffered from the tyranny of Philip; but only seven of them could agree to form a confederated republic. The influence of jealousy and competition prevented the union of the whole.

By the treaty which was formed, it was agreed that they should defend their liberties as one united republic; that they should jointly decide in the concerns of peace and war, establish a general legislative authority, and maintain religious freedom. William, prince of Orange, was elected Stadtholder—a title which included the duties of a general, admiral and magistrate.

7. *The Beheading of Mary, Queen of Scots*, was an act of cruelty on the part of her cousin, Queen Elizabeth, which has fixed an indelible stain on the character of Elizabeth. Mary fled to England for protection from her enemies, was there thrown into prison, and being presumed to have formed a conspiracy against Elizabeth, was tried and brought to the block, Feb. 8th, 1587 years A. C.

Mary had early incurred the suspicion and ill-will of the English queen, and after a course of misfortunes,

doubtless brought upon her by her indiscretions, if not crimes, she sought refuge in England. This circumstance comported well with the schemes of Elizabeth.

She now had a hated rival in her power; and under pretence of doing justice to Mary, had the cause of the latter examined into, at a conference at York. Nothing however was proved against her, but Elizabeth saw fit to detain her in close confinement, in Tilbury castle.

During her imprisonment, which was long and tedious, she naturally desired herself, and her friends for her, a release. For a plot to effect this object, devised by her friends, and detected, she was held answerable, and though an independent sovereign, was tried.

Presumed only to be guilty, she was condemned, and removed to Fotheringay castle; she was soon after barbarously beheaded, in the 45th year of her age, and the 19th of her captivity.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD VIII.

1. *Columbus*, an eminent navigator, and discoverer of America.

2. *Raphael*, and } Masters of painting among
3. *M. Angelo*, } the moderns.

4. *Erasmus*, a Dutchman, eminent in philosophy and general literature.

5. *Copernicus*, a Prussian astronomer, and discoverer of the true system of the universe.

6. *Luther*, } eminent reformers.
7. *Calvin*, }

8. *Tasso*, prince of the Italian poets.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD VIII.

1. Literature, at the commencement of this period, sprang into new life. Classical learning, criticism, poetry and history, made a rapid progress in most of the kingdoms of Europe. The dispersion of the Greeks, upon the fall of Constantinople, diffused a taste for polite literature throughout the West.

Dramatic composition began to be regular towards the conclusion of this period. Some finished epics were pro-

duced by the Italians, particularly the *Orlando Furioso* of Ariosto, and the *Gerusalem Delivered* of Tasso.

Lyric poetry was cultivated in Italy, France and England, but not with so much success. History began to be written with considerable spirit and judgment. Machiavel particularly excelled in this department of composition.

Science and philosophy did not at first keep pace with literature. Aristotle ruled over the schools till the 17th century, and had even modified the doctrines of theology. The dominion of this truly great man over the human mind was, however, destined soon to be broken by the great Bacon, lord Verulam.

2. The fine arts past suddenly from obscurity to splendour. Sculpture and painting were at their lowest ebb, in the middle ages. They revived a little in the 13th and 14th centuries. A few painters there were who imitated nature with some fidelity, but they were altogether destitute of grace or elegance.

Towards the end of the 15th century, however, Raphael carried the art of painting to perfection. The master-pieces of antiquity were his model. Others of great distinction, particularly M. Angelo and Titian, flourished under a succession of enlightened pontiffs.

Italy most excelled in the art of painting, but Germany, Flanders and Switzerland were not undistinguished. The most eminent of the schools were those of Rome, Florence, Lombardy and Flanders. These several schools were characterized by peculiar attributes, which it is here unnecessary to describe.

3. Commerce and manufactures received a vast impulse from the discoveries of foreign regions, made during this period. The Portuguese led the way in this noble enterprize. In 1420 they discovered the island of Madeira; and soon after Columbus had discovered the New World, they doubled the Cape of Good Hope, under Vasco de Gama, thus finding a passage to the Indies.

The effect of these discoveries on the commerce of Europe was wonderful. Manufactures were also proportionally advanced. Wealth flowed in upon the great marts of the West and North. Lisbon, Bordeaux, Antwerp and Amsterdam were peculiarly distinguished.

After these events, however, the Venetians lost their influence as a commercial people. They made an attempt to cut through the isthmus of Suez, but this failing, they endeavoured to interrupt the commerce of the Portuguese, by their fleets stationed at the mouth of the Red Sea and Persian Gulph.

The Portuguese however, were not to be diverted or driven from their purpose, and they were every where victorious. In the space of half a century, they were masters of the whole trade of the Indian Ocean, and of a large extent of territory in the East.

The British were by no means inactive in these times. The causes which operated in producing a commercial spirit among them, were peculiarly powerful, and have ever since continued so to be. The Reformation had a very favourable effect in this respect among the inhabitants of Britain.

Henry VII. gave the most liberal encouragement to trade and manufactures, particularly the woollen, by inviting foreign artists into his dominions. From about that period, the commerce and manufactures of the British isles have been uniformly progressive.

4. During this period, the face of the Christian world was changed. The thick darkness, which had overspread it, had begun to be dispelled, by the revival of literature and philosophy; but at the glorious era of the Reformation, the light of moral and religious truth shone forth with renewed lustre, and produced the most important effects.

Christianity, however, was not extensively propagated during this period, among distant nations. The attention of the European world was too much absorbed in the disputes which were carried on between the Reformists and Papists, to embark in so god-like an enterprize.

Still the Protestant princes did something in this work. It is certain that, in 1556, fourteen missionaries were sent from Geneva to convert the Americans, although it is not known, by whom this design was promoted, or with what success it was attended. The English, also, sent colonies into the northern parts of America, by which the Christian faith was gradually extended among the aborigines.

Much more, however, was attempted by the Papists,

though from very corrupt motives. The progress of the Reformation, in Europe, cutting off their hopes in that quarter, they turned their attention to unenlightened nations. In the execution of this design, the celebrated society of Jesuits was established.

Large numbers of this society, under the sole direction of the pope, were employed in the conversion of the African, American, and Indian heathens. Francis Xavier was the most eminent among this order of men, and executed his mission to the Indies with singular zeal and success.

PERIOD IX.

THE PERIOD OF THE ENGLISH COMMONWEALTH,

EXTENDS FROM THE

EDICT OF NANTES,



1598 years A. C. to the Death of Charles 12th,
of Sweden, 1718 years A. C. This period is
120 years in length.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD IX.

The principal events to be noticed in this period, are eight in number.

First, the Edict of Nantes :

Second, the English settlements in North America :

Third, the Union of the Protestant princes, against the emperor of Germany :

Fourth, the Revolution in China, by the Tartars :

Fifth, the Restoration of Monarchy in England :

Sixth, the League of Augsburgh against France :

Seventh, the Successes of the Duke of Marlborough against the French :

Eighth, the Battle of Pultowa.

We come to an era in which the human mind put forth its mightiest efforts, and in which the foundation was laid for the improvements that have since been made in science, philosophy, literature, and the useful arts. The important events of this, and the subsequent period, are very numerous. They can only be hinted at. Voltaire remarks, that “ the longest life would not suffice for a person only to read the historical works composed in Europe, relating to the events of the 17th century.”

1. *The Edict of Nantes*, tolerating the Protestant religion in France, was granted by Henry 4th, 1598 years A. C. This celebrated decree was the dictate of a wise and benevolent policy, and destroyed the germs of sedition in that country. It continued in force till the time of Louis 14th, when that prince very unwisely revoked it, in 1685.

Henry was educated a protestant ; but with a view to

conciliate his Catholic subjects, he abjured the protestant religion, and embraced papacy. This important measure was highly displeasing to his protestant subjects, and had but a weak tendency to conciliate the esteem of the catholics.

It was not until after several years, both of war and negotiation, that he gained the whole of his kingdom.—Among the most efficacious of the means he employed, and in which his fortitude and magnanimity, and his gratitude to his former friends and defenders were conspicuous, was the Edict of Nantes, by which he granted, to all his subjects, full liberty of conscience.

During the minority of Louis 14th, however, this edict was revoked by cardinal Mazarine, since which time, the protestants have often been cruelly persecuted in France.

2. *The English Settlements, in North America*, became effectual and permanent, 1607 years A. C. The settlement, first formed, was at Jamestown, in Virginia. Thirteen years afterwards, a colony of English puritans landed at Plymouth, and began the settlement of New-England. These and other English settlements in North America, are extremely important from their connexion with the civil and religious liberty of mankind.

It was nearly a century after the discovery of the Northern portion of the American continent, by Cabot, before the English made any attempts to colonize the country. The first project, of this kind, was undertaken by Sir Walter Raleigh, but it proved unsuccessful.

Under the patent of James I. of England, a Company, called the London Company, sent Christopher Newport to Virginia, with 105 persons, to settle the island Roanoke. By stress of weather, however, they were driven north of their place of destination, and entered Chesapeake Bay. Here, up a river, which they called James river, they commenced the settlement of Jamestown.

The first settlement in the northern district, (for Virginia was divided into northern and southern Virginia)

was made in 1620. A number of puritans, having, a few years before, left England, to free themselves from a persecuting hierarchy, and found an asylum in Holland, set sail for America, which they reached on the 22d of December, in the above named year.

Other parts of the country were soon settled in succession, and out of these colonies, through many wars and perils, grew at length the United States of America.

3. *The Union of the Protestant Princes, against the Emperor of Germany*, was formed 1726 years A. C. It owed its origin to the influence of cardinal Richelieu, who was anxious to humble the Austrian greatness. As the destruction of the protestant religion was the emperor's object, the protestants naturally took the alarm. The ambition of the emperor, induced even the Catholics of France to embark in the cause of humbling him.

Richelieu, the French minister, with a daring object in view, excited the public inquietude, at the manifestation of Ferdinand's ambitious projects. Encouraged by some successes in war, Ferdinand no longer dissembled his design of suppressing protestantism, and extinguishing the liberties of the German empire.

Richelieu's plans were attended with complete success. The Protestants and Catholics, laying aside their theological disputes, conspired together for the diminution of Ferdinand's power; the courts of France and England embarked in the same cause; the Danes, also, took up arms, and Gustavus, king of Sweden, rushed, like a torrent, upon Germany.

The protestant interest, which had been declining in Germany, now began to prosper. Gustavus completely humbled the emperor; and though the former was slain in the battle of Lutzen, the war was successfully prosecuted by the Swedish generals.

In the succeeding reign of Ferdinand III. the German protestants continued to receive supports, both from the Swedes and French. The peace of Westphalia was con-

cluded in 1648, the provisions of which were so salutary, that they laid the foundation of the future prosperity of the German empire.

4. *The Revolution in China, by the Tartars*, occurred 1641 years A. C. During a war with the eastern Tartars, a rebel dethroned the emperor; upon which, the Chinese general made peace with Tson-gate, the Tartar prince, and invited him to assist in punishing the rebel.—Tson-gate, however, seized on the Chinese throne for himself; and it has ever since remained in his family.

The Chinese had quietly submitted to the Tartar descendants of Gengiskan, during eight successive monarchs; but the character of the ninth was so odious, that a rebellion was excited, which ended in the expulsion of the Tartars, and the re-establishment of their own princes during 276 years.

At the end of this term, the event occurred, which we have noticed above. The emperor shut himself up in his palace, and after putting to death all his family, concluded the tragedy, by hanging himself.

The last emperor, Kien-Song, an amiable and wise prince, reigned 63 years, and was succeeded by Ka-hing the present emperor; who reigns over his people in peace, and does not disturb his neighbors by his ambition or interference.

5. *The Restoration of Monarchy, in England*, 1660 years A. C. was an event rendered agreeable to the English nation, from their having suffered so much by the civil commotions which preceded it. During eleven years, the functions of royalty ceased; the government changed from a monarchy to a republic, though during the greatest part of that period, the executive authority was usurped by Oliver Cromwell.

Charles I. quarrelled with the parliament, and attempted to raise money without their sanction, contrary to the rights of the people. These and other tyrannical, and unconstitutional measures, led to a civil war, which commenced in 1642; and Charles was tried and condemned for high treason, and beheaded before Whitehall, January 30, 1649.

Within a little more than four years after a republican form of government was established, under the direction of parliament, the army wrested the power out of their hands. Cromwell, who had the command of the army, assumed the supreme authority for eight years, under the title of *Lord Protector*.

On the death of this extraordinary man, his son Richard succeeded to the protectorship; but being destitute of ambition, he could not retain it. By means of general Monk, at this crisis, Charles II., son of Charles I., was restored, May 29, 1660. The character of Charles was not, however, in the highest degree favorable to the happiness of his people, though his reign was an era of taste and genius.

6. *The League of Augsburg, against France*, 1686 years A. C. was brought about by William, prince of Orange, the inveterate enemy of Louis 14th. As a consequence of this, war was waged against France by Germany, Spain, England and Holland. The French arms were, however, for some time successful.

The ascendancy of France, under the celebrated Louis 14th, had been long feared. His war with Holland had betrayed his ambition. The splendor of his designs could not but excite the envy or jealousy of his neighbors, though his glory is greatly tarnished by the revocation of the edict of Nantes, by which he lost more than 500,000 of his best subjects.

Victory attended his standard against the leaguers.—Luxemburg defeated the prince of Orange in the battles of Steenkirk and Norwinden; Noailles was victorious in Spain; and an army of 100,000 French ravaged the Palatinate, and took many of the most important towns on the

Rhine. This was the era of his glory. Sad reverses were in reserve for him.

His extensive military enterprizes had been attended with enormous expenses. The finances had fallen into disorder, and the persevering efforts of his enemies obliged him to conclude the peace of Ryswick in 1697. The war, however, was soon renewed.

7. *The Successes of the Duke of Marlborough, against the French*, weakened, essentially, the power of Louis 14th, and terminated in the favorable peace of Utrecht. Marlborough first distinguished himself, in his victorious career, in the battle of Blenheim, 1704 years A. C. With him was associated Prince Eugene, the commander of the Imperial forces.

With the avowed object of putting the house of Austria in possession of the throne of Spain, war was declared against France and Spain, by England, Holland, and the empire. Louis had passed his prime, and lost his greatest ministers and generals; while the armies of his enemies were commanded by the ablest generals of the age, and supported by the treasures of the united powers.

The war was carried on with manifest advantage on the part of the allies. The battle of Blenheim cost the French 20,000 men. By land and by sea the allies were victorious. Marlborough gained, besides the battle of Blenheim, those of Ramilies, Oudenarde, and Malplaquet. One or two victories, on the part of the French and Spanish, prevented Philip, king of Spain, from abandoning his possessions in Europe.

Louis sued for peace, and even proposed very humiliating terms; but as they were rejected, and the inhuman condition of dethroning his grandson, Philip, was insisted on, he made one more desperate effort in battle, in which he was so far successful as to preserve Philip on the throne.

The change in queen Anne's cabinet, gave facility to propositions for peace, in which the English and Dutch secured many valuable acquisitions.

8. *The Battle of Pultowa*, which was gained

by Peter the Great, over Charles 12th, of Sweden, was fought June 30, 1709 years A. C. This battle decided the fate of Russia, Sweden, and Poland. The army of Charles was nearly all destroyed. Here he was effectually checked in that career of conquest which alarmed all Europe.

Charles 12th, of Sweden, was one of the bravest and most excentric of mankind. His dominions were attacked on three sides, by Russia, Poland, and Denmark; and he, although then only a boy of 17 years, successively took the field against these powers, and signally defeated them. Poland he humbled in the dust.

A negotiation having been begun by the czar, Charles abruptly terminated it, and declared that he would negotiate only at Moscow. The rigor of a Russian winter, prepared his army for the defeat which it so terribly received at Pultowa.

Augustus, whom Charles had previously deposed, was restored to the throne of Poland, and the czar took possession of Finland and Livonia. Charles fled into the Turkish dominions, where his conduct seemed the result of phrenzy, rather than that of a calculating warrior.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD IX.

1. *Gallileo*, an Italian, distinguished for his discoveries in Mathematics and Astronomy.

2. *Shakespeare*, the greatest of dramatic poets.

3. *Cervantes*, a Spaniard, the celebrated author of *Don Quixotte*.

4. *Bacon*, Lord Verulam, English philosopher, an universal genius.

5. *Grotius*, a Dutch writer of various and profound learning.

6. *Pascal*, an eminent French philosopher and theologian.

7. *Milton*, the greatest of epic poets among the moderns.

8. *Corneille*, the prince of the French dramatic poets.

9. *Dryden*, an eminent English poet.

10. *Locke*, the greatest among the English metaphysicians.

11. *Leibnitz*, an acute German philosopher and mathematician.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD IX.

1. The most profound researches were made in science, philosophy, and literature, during this period. The period, as such, is distinguished for inventive genius, originality of thought, depth of investigation, and solid acquisitions.

If we include Addison and Newton, who flourished during this period, but died near the beginning of the next, we are presented with an array of genius and learning, probably not equalled in the history of the world hitherto.

Philosophy had been tramelled by the schools, till the beginning of the 17th century, when Bacon disenthralled the human mind, and taught the sure method of advancing knowledge, by experiment and the observation of nature.

The progress of philosophy was not, however, rapid at first. Much of theorizing and conjecture remained, even in Gassendi and Des Cartes. Newton, however, arose, towards the conclusion of this period, and completely dispelled the illusions with which youth had been infatuated for more than 2000 years. Numerous were the productions of taste and genius in all the departments of literature. Shakespeare, Milton, and Addison, in England; and Corneille, Racine, and Pascal, in France; produced works which will be as lasting as the languages in which they are written.

2. The fine arts continued to be cultivated with success during this period. The old school of painting, with Raphael and Angelo at their head, it cannot be expected will ever be surpassed, in the essential perfections of the art.

Belonging to that school, under the former part of the

present period, were Albano, Guerchino, Guido, Poussin, Rembrandt, Rubens, and other eminent painters.

The art of engraving on mezzotinto, which has enlarged the dominion of the fine arts, was an invention of this period. Prince Rupert, in 1650, was its author. It is characterized by a softness equal to that of the pencil.

Many inventions connected with the advancement of the sciences, are dated from this era; as for instance, the thermometer, the air pump, the barometer, the micrometer, &c.

The useful and mechanic arts, also, were greatly multiplied during the period under review. Hundreds of conveniences and luxuries, which were unknown to antiquity, sprung into use; though many others, which distinguish modern times, owe their origin to one or two of the preceding periods.

3. The spirit of commerce and navigation was greatly excited and fanned in the 17th century. Connected with this, was the spirit of adventure and settlement in distant regions, particularly those of the American continent. Almost every considerable part of this continent was colonized during this, and the latter part of the preceding period.

The central and southern parts of the Atlantic coast of America, were all settled within the compass of the 17th century. The fathers of the United States were generally, driven to these regions by the persecutions which more or less then prevailed in Europe, on account of religion.

The circumnavigators of the globe, during this era, were among the English; Cowley, Dampier, and Cooke; among the Dutch, Le Maire and Tasman; among the Spanish, Quiros.

4. Much was done to advance the interest of religion in the form in which it is professed by the Catholics, though it was done generally in a very unjustifiable manner, especially by the Jesuits. In 1622, was founded at Rome, the celebrated College "De propaganda fide," which was endowed with the most ample revenues.

Other institutions of a similar kind were also founded; and from them, a great number of missionaries were sent forth, to different parts of the world, to propagate the Roman faith. The religious orders which chiefly distinguish

ed themselves in these missions were the Jesuits, the Dominicans, the Franciscans, and the Capuchins.

Many of the protestant princes, from their peculiar situation, could do but little in spreading the Gospel. The English and Dutch, who were more favorably situated, made some efficient and successful attempts. The puritans, who settled New-England, not only carried Christianity into their own societies, but propagated it with some success among the Indians. Mayhew, Shepard, and Elliott, particularly the last, distinguished themselves in this most benevolent enterprize.

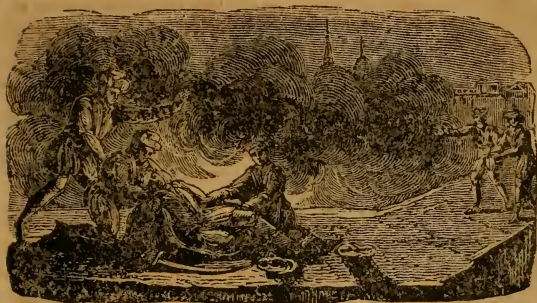
The efforts of the Dutch were successfully directed to the islands of Ceylon and Formosa, the coast of Malabar and other Asiatic settlements, which they had acquired or conquered. No sooner, also, were they settled in the Indies, than they found the means of converting numbers of the Hindoos to the Christian faith.

PERIOD X.

THE PERIOD OF THE AMERICAN AND THE FRENCH REVOLUTION,

EXTENDS FROM THE DEATH OF

CHARLES XII. OF SWEDEN,



*1718 years A. C. to the final Restoration of the
Bourbons, 1815 years A. C. The extent of
this period is 97 years.*

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PERIOD X.

We select during this period nine principal events.

First, the Death of Charles XII. of Sweden :

Second, the Conquest of the Mogul empire
by Kouli-Kan :

Third, the Confederacy of Russia, Austria
and France against Frederick the Great, of
Prussia :

Fourth, the Dismemberment of Poland by Russia, Prussia and Austria :

Fifth, the Declaration of Independence by the United States of America :

Sixth, the Execution of Louis XVI. king of France :

Seventh, the Crowning of Napoleon emperor of France :

Eighth, the Burning of Moscow :

Ninth, the Battle of Waterloo.

The events of this period are singularly important, as connected with the establishment and progress of civil and religious liberty, and free institutions. The moral improvement of man, and the diffusion of true religion in the world, may be expected to advance more and more, with the means which have been put in operation for so important an end. The future is unknown to us, but it seems to teem with great events.

1. *The Death of Charles XII. of Sweden*, which occurred Dec. 11th, 1718, was apparently a benefit to Sweden, and to Europe generally. Sweden gained a reformation of her government, and Europe was saved from the ravages which his ambition would have made. In besieging a Norwegian fortress, he was killed by a cannon ball.

The czar and the king of Denmark ravaged Sweden, while Charles remained in Turkey. Returning in disguise, he immediately conceived the design of wresting Norway from Denmark. This he soon abandoned, in consequence of failing in the outset.

A project was then formed, in which the czar united with him, of dethroning George II. and of placing the pretender James on the throne of Britain. The death of Charles frustrated the plan, and saved Europe from confusion and blood.

After the death of this madman, (so Charles has been

called) the arbitrary power of the Swedish sovereigns experienced a salutary limitation, and the states made peace with all the hostile powers.

2. *The Conquest of the Mogul Empire by Kouli Kan*, took place 1739 years A. C. It was not however a complete conquest. The empire was so far ruined, that after that period, the viceroys ceased to obey the authority of the Mogul; and India fell an easy prey to the English East-India Company. In taking Delhi, the capital of India, Kouli Kan acquired immense wealth, and committed the most horrible excesses.

Kouli Kan, previously to his invasion of India, had usurped the throne of Persia. The posterity of Tamerlane, who established themselves in that country, had been supplanted by the *Sophia* family, the last of whom was dethroned by Kouli Kan, who was his general. This occurred in 1735.

Invading India in 1739, every obstacle disappeared before him, and soon reaching Delhi, he took possession of it, with all its treasures. Upon some provocation he received, he delivered the city to the fury of his soldiers. In about seven hours, 120,000 of the citizens were butchered.

Before his return into Persia, 200,000 of the inhabitants had perished by his sword, and the loss sustained by the Mogul, in jewels, treasures, &c. amounted to 125 millions sterling, more than half which Kouli Kan and his soldiers carried away.

This monster took the title of emperor of the Indies, and returning into Persia, he attempted to change the religion, and strangled all the priests; after which, in self-defence, he was murdered in his tent by his own officers, in 1747.

3. *The Confederacy of Russia, Austria and France, against Frederick the Great of Prussia*, was formed 1756 years A. C. This is called the "seven years' war," during which Frede-

rick maintained his ground against his powerful enemies, sometimes conquering, and sometimes conquered. This was an extremely sanguinary contest.

The ambition and military spirit of the Prussian monarch had become sufficiently manifest by the manner in which he had wrested Silesia from Austria, to excite the alarm of the neighbouring states. Accordingly Russia, Austria and France concluded a treaty of defensive alliance against him.

The success of the war was various. Frederick gained several important battles, but he lost several also, and his affairs at length became so critical, from his diminishing resources, and increasing enemies, that he began to act solely on the defensive. The death of the Russian empress, however, at this time, relieved him in a great measure.

Her successor made peace with the Prussian king, and being joined by the Russian troops, with whose help he obtained an important victory, he was enabled to secure an honourable peace with all the powers with which he had been at war. The glory which Frederick acquired from this protracted contest, was a trifling compensation to his subjects for their sufferings.

4. *The Dismemberment of Poland by Russia, Prussia and Austria*, 1772 years A. C. has been stigmatized as one of the most unprincipled acts recorded in history. The greatest part of Poland was at that time divided among these powers. In 1795 they secured the remainder of it, and thus Poland was erased from the list of nations.

Frederick of Prussia is said to have been the prime mover of this infamous measure. Of the claims set up for Poland, that of Frederick, it has been asserted, was best founded. But of three such claims it is difficult to determine which was best, or rather which was most iniquitous.

Stanislaus-Augustus, who had been elected by the in-

tervention of Russia, was, at this time, on the throne of Poland. He was obliged, much against his wishes, to assent to the dismemberment of his dominions, and to give the act the form of legislative sanction.

Russia, Prussia and Austria, completing their great political crime in 1795, by seizing on the remaining part of Poland, and expunging it from among independent nations, have since enjoyed the fruits of their robbery. At the Congress held at Vienna in 1815, part of Poland was united to the Russian empire, with the preservation of its own constitution; and on this event, Alexander, emperor of Russia, assumed the title of king of Poland.

5. *The Declaration of Independence by the United States of America*, was made on the 4th of July, 1776 years A. C. This measure, which was so auspicious to the interests of the United States, was forced upon them by the injustice and oppressions of the mother country. The act was passed by the Continental Congress, assembled at Philadelphia, and by the people was supported with such spirit and success, that it was at length acknowledged by the nations of Europe.

The causes of disagreement between the Colonies and Great-Britain cannot here be recited. They related principally to the subject of revenue and taxation, in which the former conceived themselves to be unjustly and injuriously treated.

Opposition being made by the colonies to the acts of the British Parliament on this subject, troops were sent to America to enforce submission to the laws. Hostilities of course commenced. The first blood was spilt at Lexington, Massachusetts, 19th of April, 1775.

Previously to the Declaration of Independence, Congress had appointed GEORGE WASHINGTON Commander in Chief of the American armies, under whose virtue, talents and bravery, the United States succeeded in the arduous struggle for liberty.

In the height of the contest, France acknowledged the

independence of the States, and brought aid to their cause. In 1783, a definitive treaty of peace was concluded, by which his Britannic Majesty acknowledged the same.

In 1789, the government of these States was organized, conformably to the Federal Constitution, and Washington was inaugurated the First President. With the exception of one war between the United States and Great-Britain since, the former have enjoyed a bright period of peace, happiness and prosperity.

6. *The Execution of Louis XVI. King of France*, constituted a momentous part of the French revolution. It took place 1793 years A. C. on the 21st of January, and followed the abolition of monarchy in France. Louis, after being long detained as a state prisoner, and undergoing a mock trial, was brought under the guillotine, to the astonishment of all Europe.

With a view to retrieve his finances, Louis called a National Assembly, which claimed more liberty than he chose to grant. The consequence of this was, that the Bastile was demolished, and a new constitution established on the basis of the equal rights of man.

In 1790 the King swore to maintain the constitution; but the next year he fled from Paris. In 1792, France was invaded by the Prussians and Austrians, to restore the king. They were repelled. After the execution of Louis, all the kings in Europe leagued against France, and a most tragical external and internal war took place, in which the French performed prodigies of valour.

A form of government was afterwards settled by the Convention; but the powers of Europe being still in league against France, and the new government being unsuccessful in the field, the executive power was, in 1799, vested in three consuls, of whom the first was Napoleon Bonaparte.

The energy of the government was by this means restored, and Bonaparte, as head of the nation, under the title of First Consul, having gained the victory of Marengo, in Italy, forced Austria to conclude the treaty of

Luneville in Feb. 1801; and concluded the treaty of Amiens with England in October of that year; thus restoring peace, for a short time, to all Europe.

7. *The Crowning of Napoleon Emperor of France*, took place 1804 A. C. It was performed by the Pope. The next year he was crowned king of Italy. These and other manifestations of his ambition, excited the disquietude of Europe, and were the occasion of renewed and desolating wars. His successes put it into his power to dispose of several European kingdoms, and to make his four brothers kings.

The peace of Amiens lasted but little longer than one year. Great-Britain, Russia and Austria, confederated against the French emperor, with a view to restore the balance of power in Europe. The English met with success on the ocean, Lord Nelson entirely defeating the combined fleets of France and Spain at Trafalgar.

Bonaparte, however, was entirely successful on land. He routed the Austrians and Russians with a terrible slaughter at Austerlitz. Pursuing his conquests with unexampled rapidity, he almost annihilated the power of Prussia by the celebrated battle of Jena. He gained also the battles of Eylau and Friedland over the Russians, and forced them to sue for peace.

The French emperor was now master of all France, Italy, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Holland, and the greater part of Germany. One of his brothers he made king of Holland, another of Naples, and a third of Westphalia. He soon projected the conquest of Spain, and placed a fourth brother on the throne of that country.

In this project, however, he was not successful. He sent his generals into Spain, and though at first victorious, they were at length beaten, and driven from the country. In this contest, the English, under the Duke of Wellington, distinguished themselves.

8. *The Burning of Moscow*, the ancient capital of Russia, was the work of its patriotic inhabitants, who sought by this means the de-

struction of their French invaders. It was completely successful. The French, being deprived of winter quarters, were obliged to commence a precipitate and ruinous retreat. The burning of Moscow took place in the month of September, 1812 A. C.

In 1812, Napoleon invaded Russia with an army of 500,000 veterans, commanded by able and experienced generals. This was the first step of his downfall. The Russians fought with the most obstinate courage, though they lost several battles.

Moscow was taken by the French, but they took it a pile of ruins. Three quarters of it, its inhabitants had burnt to the ground. Its stores and provisions were destroyed, and the French had no other alternative, than to remain there without quarters, and without food, or to retreat.

They chose the latter; and history, it is believed, does not record so great a disaster, or more appalling scene of suffering. The exasperated inhabitants, but more especially the rigours of cold and hunger, almost totally annihilated an army which presented the proudest array of human strength, that ever one man led to battle.

According to the Russian statement, the French, in their invasion of Russia, lost, in killed, more than 200,000—in prisoners, nearly 240,000—in cannon taken, 1131 pieces—in muskets, 100,000—in ammunition waggons, 27,000—in colours and standards, 63 pairs.

9. *The Battle of Waterloo* decided the fate of France and of Europe. It was fought on the 18th of June, 1815 A. C. The French force, led by Napoleon in person, consisted of 150,000 men—that of the English and Prussians united, of 170,000. The English were commanded by the Duke of Wellington—the Prussians by Prince Blucher. With this event ended the dynasty of Napoleon.

The disasters of the campaign in 1812 united Great-

Britain, Russia, Prussia, Austria and Sweden, with a view to dethrone Bonaparte, and restore liberty to the conquered states. Bonaparte was at first successful, but losing the battle of Leipsic, the allies poured in upon France from the north, while Wellington invaded it from the south.

In this situation of things, he renounced the throne of France and Italy, and was permitted to retire to the island of Elba. In the mean time the family of the Bourbons returned to France, and Louis XVIII. was placed on the throne.

Bonaparte, however, soon quitting Elba, landed in France, and, the whole army flocking to his standard, he entered Paris in triumph, the royal family fleeing before him. This occurrence brought the allies again to act, and the consequence was, the victory of Waterloo.

Louis was again placed on the throne. and Bonaparte, delivering himself up to the English, was sent to the island of St. Helena, where he died March 5th, 1821. Europe has since enjoyed peace, with the exception of the struggle which the heroic Greeks have been making for their liberties, and the invasion of Spain by the French, in furtherance of the views of the infamous misnamed *holy alliance*, formed between Russia, Austria, Prussia and France, against the progress of free institutions.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS IN PERIOD X.

1. *Marlborough*, an English duke, and an accomplished and successful warrior.

2. *Addison*, an elegant English essayist and poet.

3. *Newton*, a most profound mathematician and philosopher.

4. *Pope*, an eminent English poet.

5. *Linnæus*, a Swede, the father of botany.

6. *Chatham*, a distinguished statesman and orator.

7. *Johnson*, an eminent lexicographer, critic, and essayist.

8. *Franklin*, an American, a distinguished electrician and philosopher.

9. *Washington*, an eminent statesman and warrior, and father of the American republic.

10. *Cowper*, a celebrated English poet.

11. *M. de Stael*, a learned and accomplished French female writer.

12. *Napoleon*, a renowned warrior, conqueror and statesman.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON PERIOD X.

1. The present period is perhaps less distinguished than the preceding, for profound attainments, and original works in science and literature. This arises rather from the force of circumstances, than from any other cause. Most subjects of human investigation had been forestalled; yet the improvements which have been made, in every department of knowledge, have been great.

Discoveries have not been wanting, and where the genius of former ages has not exhausted research, research has been made. Within this period some sciences have been created, and others have been greatly advanced. By a course of observation, agreeably to the Baconian philosophy, the great principles of chemistry, mineralogy, electricity, geology, &c. have been fixed on a firm basis.

2. The fine arts have been cultivated with much success during this period. Painters and sculptors have received a patronage worthy of their merits. West in painting, and Canova in sculpture, are names destined to immortality. American talent has been conspicuous in the former art.

3. In the mechanic arts, and in improvements by which the conveniences and comforts of life are extended and multiplied, this period has probably exceeded any other. The numerous inventions which are designed to aid the various branches of manufactures, and the application of the power of steam to the same and many other objects, are the glory of the age.

It is calculated that in England alone, at the present

time, the steam engines in use represent the power of 320,000 horses, equal to that of 1,920,000 men, which being in fact managed by 3600 only, adds actually to the power of the population 1,884,000 men.

4. Commerce and navigation have made rapid advances during the last and present century. Of many nations, the wealth and power consists essentially in their means and facilities for maritime war, and for navigation.

Great-Britain, with her 1000 armed vessels, has long ruled the ocean, and made her power to be felt on every shore, and on every country accessible by water. By means of the wealth derived from her amazing commerce, she was enabled to subsidize almost all Europe at one time against the power of Napoleon.

The growing navy and immense commerce of the United States of America have given them a consideration of the highest importance among other nations, and enable them almost to compete with Britain herself, on her own element.

The application of steam to the purposes of navigation, forms an era in its history. The Americans first made the application, and the power of steam is now extensively employed in propelling vessels on rivers and inland seas, both in Europe and America.

5. The establishment and progress of free institutions have also marked the period under review. The independence of the American States forms an era in the history of the political world; and it has generated a spirit among the nations which, sooner or later, will crumble into dust every fabric of tyranny.

The efforts of the Holy Alliance can not always keep this spirit down. Light is in its nature progressive, and light has begun to shine. France, during her revolution, and Spain, more recently, were unhappy in their efforts; circumstances were not in their favour. But Greece still maintains her heroic and lofty struggle, and Mexico and the South American States are free.

6. Christianity and its heavenly influences have, on the whole, been more visible during this period, than during several that preceded it. This has been the fruit of the Reformation. Much has been the vice and flagitiousness of the reformed nations—much has been their unbelief;

and at one time the reign of infidelity seemed almost universal, but its reign was ephemeral.

A better spirit has succeeded it, and for the last thirty years the Gospel has enjoyed peculiar triumphs in revivals of religion, and in the propagation of its tenets among the heathen tribes. Many islands of the sea have been evangelized, and some portions of benighted Asia and Africa. Civilization has followed in the train of Christianity.

QUESTIONS.

These questions only relate to those parts of the work which are in larger type; the teacher can make his examination more minute, by adding such inteorrogatories respecting the matter in smaller type, as he chooses.

How may Chronology be divided ?

What is the extent of *ancient chronology* ?

What is the extent of the *first*, (*second*, *third*, &c.) *period*, and for what is it distinguished ?

Repeat this question on every period.

PERIOD I.

How many principal events are included in this first period ? What are they ?

Repeat these questions on every period.

1. What length of time did the work of creation occupy ? What appointment did God make respecting the seventh day ? When did creation commence ?

2. Where is contained the account of the fall of man ? When did it probably take place ?

3. What was one of the first fruits of the apostacy ? When did Cain murder Abel ? On what account did he murder him ?

4. Why was the deluge predicted to Noah ? When was this prediction communicated ? For what purpose was the deluge threatened ?

5. What distinguished characters were there in this period ?

Repeat this question on every period.

PERIOD II.

1. How much of the globe did the deluge cover ? What was the destruction occasioned by it ? When did it occur ?

2. When was the Tower of Babel built ? Where was it commenced ? What divine judgment ensued ?

3. When and by whom was the Assyrian empire founded ? What is said of the separate state of the Assyrian and Babylonian empires, and what of their union ?

4. When was the first dynasty of the Chinese emperors established ? What was it called, and how many succeeded it ?

5. Who founded the kingdom of Egypt, and when was it founded ? What did Menes do ?

PERIOD III.

1. What was the object of the calling of Abraham ? What is the date of this event ?

2. Why were Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed ? When did this event occur ? Who interceded for them ?

3. With what event was the arrival of Inachus in Greece connected ? When did he arrive there ?

4. What was the occasion of the Selling of Joseph ? How did God overrule it ? What is the date of this event ?

5. By whom were the Israelites persecuted ? When did their persecution commence ? What end was in view in this persecution ?

PERIOD IV.

1. When and by whom was Athens founded ? With what was this event connected ?

2. In what manner did the Israelites retreat from

Egypt ? When did this event take place ? With what was it connected ?

3. When and by whom were letters introduced into Greece ? What was the effect produced ?

4. What was the first foreign enterprize of the Greeks ? By whom was it conducted ? What was its destination ?

5. When was Troy taken by the Greeks ? What was the length of the siege ? What is said of this enterprize ?

6. When was monarchy established among the Israelites ? What was the occasion of their change of government ?

PERIOD V.

1. When was Solomon's temple dedicated ? By whom and in whose presence was this dedication performed ?

2. What is said of the introduction of Homer's poems into Greece ? When were they introduced ?

3. When did Lycurgus reform the republic of Lacedemon ? What means were employed in this reformation ? What was the result ?

4. When and by whom was the kingdom of Macedon founded ? What was its character at first ?

5. When did Dido build Carthage ? What do we know of its early history ? What of its later ?

6. When did Jonah preach to the Ninevites ? What was the object of his preaching ?

PERIOD VI.

1. When and by whom was Rome founded ? With what was this event connected ? With what description of persons was Rome first peopled ?

2. What was the consequence of the carrying

away of the ten tribes of Israel ? When did this event occur ?

3. What length of time intervened between the destruction of Samaria, and the taking of Jerusalem ? When and by whom was Jerusalem taken ?

4. What terminated the Babylonian empire ? How was Babylonia afterwards situated ? When did this event happen ?

5. By what means were the Jews restored from their captivity ? Who permitted their return ? When did this event take place ?

6. What occasioned the abolition of the regal government at Rome ? When did this event happen ? Who were the chief agents in this transaction ?

PERIOD VII.

1. Between what powers was the battle of Marathon fought ? Who were defeated ? Who led the respective armies ? When did this event occur ?

2. What is said of the destruction of Leonidas and his band ? What force did Leonidas resist ? What is the date of this event ?

3. When was Cincinnatus dictator of Rome ? How long did he hold this office ? What did he accomplish ?

4. What is said of the retreat of the 10,000 Greeks ? When did it take place ? By whom was it conducted and described ?

5. When did the Gauls take Rome ? Who was their leader ? What was the issue of their enterprise ?

6. When did the war between Thebes and Sparta commence ? What is said of this occurrence ?

PERIOD VIII.

1. When was the battle of Cheronea fought ?

What was the result of it ? What was the interest at stake ?

2. When did Alexander overthrow the Persian empire ? How long had it subsisted ? In what battle was its fate decided ?

3. When did the partition of the Macedonian empire take place ? Who made this partition ?

4. When was Pyrrhus defeated by the Romans ? What was the consequence of this event ?

5. When did the first Punic war commence ? What is said of it ?

6. When did the second Punic war commence ? Who begun this war ? Who led the Carthagenians ?

7. What event followed soon after the conclusion of the second Punic war ? When did the kingdom of Macedon, and the independence of Greece become extinct ?

PERIOD IX.

1. When was Carthage destroyed ? How were the Carthagenians treated ?

2. By whom was Jugurtha defeated ? How many of the Numidian army were slain ? What became of Jugurtha ?

3. When did the Mithridatic war commence ? In what did it end ?

4. When did the civil war between Marius and Sylla commence ? What is said of these men ? What was the consequence of the war between them ?

5. What is the date of the Dictatorship of Sylla ? What course did he pursue ? What was the effect on Rome ?

PERIOD X.

1. When was Jerusalem taken by Pompey ? With what was this event connected ?

2. By whom was Cicero banished from Rome ? What was the pretence for this measure ? When did it take place ?

3. When did Cæsar invade Britain ? What was his success ?

4. By whom was the battle of Pharsalia gained ? When was it fought ? What took place in regard to Pompey and Cæsar afterwards ?

5. When was Cæsar assassinated ? Who assassinated him, and for what was he assassinated ?

6. When was the battle of Philippi fought ? Who gained that battle ? What was the effect of it ?

7. When did the battle of Actium, and the end of the Roman commonwealth take place ? Between what forces was the battle fought ? What was the consequence in regard to Octavius ?

**QUESTIONS**

ON

MODERN CHRONOLOGY.

What is the extent of modern chronology ?

Into how many periods may it be divided ?

What is the extent of the *first*. (*second, third, &c.*) period, and for what is it distinguished ?

Repeat this question on every period.

PERIOD I.

How many principal events are included in the first period ? What are they ?

the East? By what means did she assume it? How long did she retain it?

PERIOD V.

1. At what time, and by whom, was Charlemagne crowned at Rome? Did he restore the Roman Empire to its former prosperity? How did he fail herein?

2. When was the Saxon Heptarchy united? When did the kingdom of England properly commence? How many separate sovereignties became united?

3. When did John Zimisces begin to reign? By what was his reign signalized?

4. When did William the Conqueror land in Britain? What followed his landing?

PERIOD VI.

1. What is the date of the Crusades? What were the crusades? How many were there? What was their success?

2. When did John sign the Magna Charta? What was the use of this charter? By what means was it obtained?

3. When did the Saracen empire terminate? In what way did it terminate? What became of the last of the caliphs?

4. When did the Greeks recover Constantinople? By whom and how long had it been held in captivity? In the mean time, where did the Greek emperors retire?

5. When did the Mogul Tartars complete the conquest of China? Who had subjugated a considerable portion of it before?

6. What feat did William Wallace perform? When

did he perform it ? At Sterling what took place between him and the English ?

PERIOD VII.

1. How was the Greek empire affected by the Turks ? When did they found their empire ? Who was the first sultan ?

2. What gave rise to the establishment of the Swiss republics ? When did this event take place ?

3. When was the battle of Poitiers ? Who gained it, and what happened to John, king of France ?

4. When did the schism of the double popes begin ? How long did it continue ? From what arose so singular a state of things ?

5. When did Tamerlane take Bajazet prisoner ? Of what battle was this the result ? How many men fought in this battle ?

6. When did the French recover from the English power ? How was this change effected ?

PERIOD VIII.

1. What put an end to the Eastern Empire of the Romans ? How long had it subsisted ? Who was the leader of the Turks on this occasion ?

2. What was the effect of the union of the houses of York and Lancaster ? How did Henry VII. unite the rights of both families ?

3. When did Columbus discover the continent of America ? What did he discover previously to this ? Of what importance was the discovery of America ?

4. When and where did the reformation in religion begin ? What was its progress ? How did it affect papacy ?

5. What is said of Charles, and his abdication ?

When and to whom did he resign his dominions? What became of him?

6. When did the republic of Holland commence? What forced the states to unite? How many provinces were concerned in this measure?

7. How is the character of Queen Elizabeth affected by her conduct towards Mary? When and how was Mary deprived of her life?

PERIOD IX.

1. What is the date of the edict of Nantes? What was the character of this edict? How long did it continue in force?

2. When were permanent English settlements made in North America? Which was the first settlement? Which was the next? Of what importance were they?

3. When did the protestant princes unite against the emperor of Germany? To whose influence was this junction owing? What was its object?

4. When did the Tartars revolutionize China? Give an account of this event.

5. When was monarchy restored in England? How was it received by the nation? How long was the royal power suspended? Who usurped the supreme authority?

6. What is the date of the League of Augsburg? Who brought it about? What was a consequence of this measure?

7. What was the effect of Marlborough's successes in France? When did Marlborough first distinguish himself?

8. When was the battle of Pultowa fought? What was its effect?

PERIOD X.

1. When occurred the death of Charles XII.? What consequences resulted from it? How did he die?

2. When did Kouli Kan conquer the Mogul empire? Was it an entire conquest? What is said concerning his taking of Delhi?

3. When did Russia, Austria and France confederate against Frederick the Great? How did Frederick stand his ground? Was this a very bloody contest?

4. When and by what powers was Poland dismembered? What is the character of that act?

5. When did the United States of America declare their independence? What drove them to this act? How was it at length received by the nations of Europe?

6. What was a signal event in the French revolution? When was Louis executed? What followed his execution?

7. When was Napoleon crowned Emperor of France? When King of Italy? What was the consequence of this and other manifestations of his ambition? What was his success?

8. Who burnt Moscow? What effect did it produce on the French? What is the date of this event?

9. What effect did the battle of Waterloo produce? When was it fought? What forces were engaged, and who commanded them?

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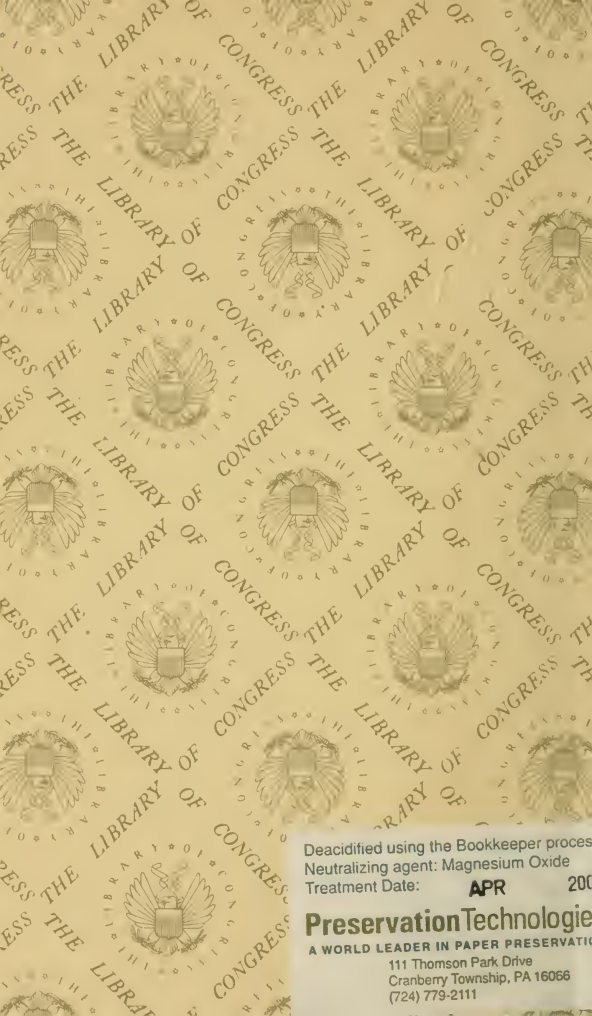
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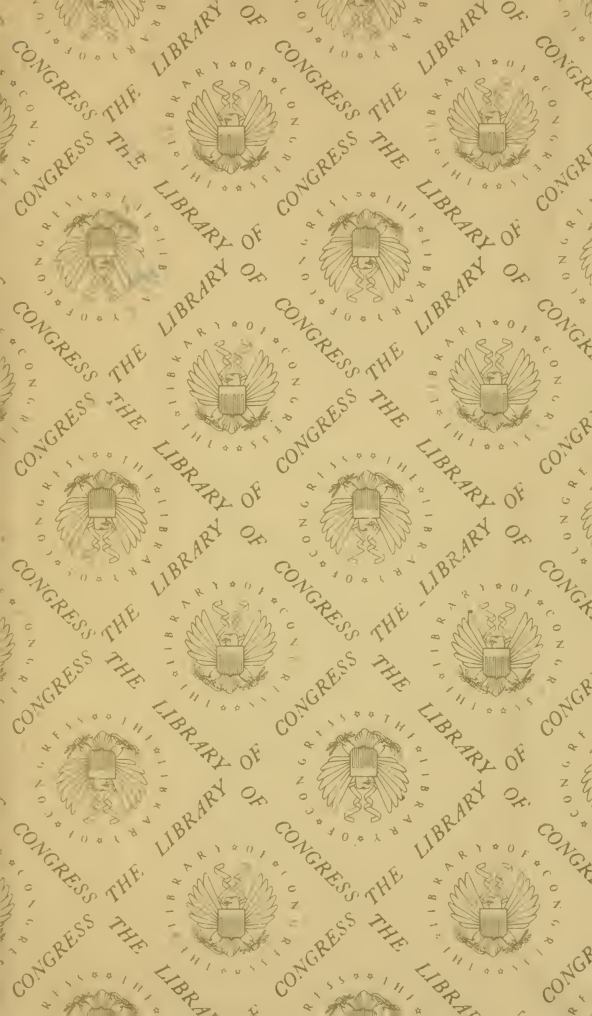


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